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The Pittsburgh

COMMERCIAL,

DAILY AND WEEKLY

LEADING

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WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, D. C., November 20, 1873.

General Sherman left to-night for Newark, to be absent until Monday. He was accompanied by Col. Audenried, his senior aid. General Sherman had an interview with the President this afternoon on the military situation and other matters. The views of General Sherman on the all-important questions now agitating the public mind have not yet been stated, although a meagre report of one or two observations purporting to have emenated from him have been printed. Being asked to-day what he thought of the situation, he replied that matters had not yet progressed to that point where his part of the business began. It is still a question of diplomacy, and according to the old adage, "War begins only when diplomacy ends."

As to the condition of the materiel of the army, the arsenals are well stocked with arms of the most approved patterns. The magazines are stored with full supplies of ammunition for small arms and artillery. The depots have abundant quantities of clothing and accourtrements, all in fine condition and available at the shortest notice.

He believed that the most effective way of raising such a force as would be necessary to an invasion of Cuba would be to increase the numerical force of each company to the standard of one hundred men, which would make 45,000 men, instead of about 30,000, as at present. Such an organization would render unnecessary the employment of any officers of the line in addition to those now belonging to the regular army. In many of the armies of European nations, the General remarked, as many as two hundred and fifty men are led into action by a Captain and two Lieutenants. By this method of increasing the army, the expense would be much less than to attempt to put in the field an entirely new force. Unquestionably the most speedy mode of raising necessary troops for immediate aggressive movements would be to call for volunteers, say fifty or a hundred thousand. From the tone of public sentiment it looked as if double that number of men could be secured on the short est notice.

Fighting in Cuba would be rather perplexing and embarrassing on account of the large numbers of the native Cubans, who, there is the best reason to believe, would be friendly toward the United States but who could not dare to openly proclaim their sympathies, fearing that after a sufficient punishment had been administered to Spanish officials, the army of invasion might be withdrawn and they left to the tender mercies of their harsh rulers.

The General remarked that the case of the Virginius recalled to his mind the incidents of a case arising during the operations of General Jackson in Florida, and which created a great excitement throughout the country and in England, and which was used by the enemies of Jackson many years after when he was a candidate for President of the United States. The Florida Seminoles had massacred forty troops of the United States and had committed other depredations upon American soil, and the United States was unable to obtain satisfaction from the Spanish authorities. Gen. Jackson was then put in command of the United States troops on the Spanish frontier. He inaugurated his campaign by pursuing the offending Indians into Spanish territory, they seeking refuge under the guns of the Spanish fortress at St. Marks, the commandant of the fortress claimed that he was unable to resist their demands. Gen. Jackson at once took possession of the fort, the Spanish commandant protesting. On returning to St. Marks, Jackson brought two Englishmen, Arbuthnot and Ambrister, before a court martial, charged with aiding and abetting the Indians, and both were executed. This led to great excitement in England and Spain, but no hostile measures were instituted by either government. This proceeding of Jackson was the origin of the famous catch cry, handbills used to prejudice him before the people when a candidate for [illegible] but without effect, as the people seemed to like his decisive way of resenting insults to his country. It might be added that John Quincy Adams, when Secretary of State, endorsed what Jackson had done. In 1872, when Gen. Sherman was in 1872, traveling in Europe, he met a number of the prominent republican leaders of Spain, including Castelar, the present head of the Spanish Government. He expresses a high opinion of his personal qualities and abilities. He says he is an orator, a scholar and a writer of acknowledged merits. His republican ideas were emphatic.

The delayed in obtaining any positive reply from Spain increases the belief that the war cloud is gradually thickening. The Spanish reserves have been ordered to the coast. The preparations of our government are being pressed.

Interesting to Farmers—Increased Production of British Farms—Average Yield of Wheat in European Countries—Wheat Culture in England—A Model English Farm—Favorable Results of Scientific Husbandry.

Special Correspondence of the Pittsburgh Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., November 18, 1873.

MR. DODGE, statistician of the Department of Agriculture, during his recent visit to Europe in connection with general agricultural statistics, gathered much valuable information respecting farms and farming in foreign countries. Since his return he has prepared several papers on the subjects referred to. One of these relating to the

INCREASED PRODUCTION OF BRITISH FARMS

contains many practical suggestions which could be accepted with profit by our own farmers. Considering the numerous advantages of a virgin or at least young soil, as compared with England, of enterprise, industry and improved mechanical appliances there is no reason why American farms should yield less than those of England. Mr. Dodge says that "worn out soils" and "exhausted farms" are phrases that have no place in the vocabulary of an advanced agriculture. In all the free States of this country, it has often been stated, the yield of the principal products tends rather to decline than to advance, as we regard pioneer agriculture as the true one, and to land speculation—the means by which a poor and farmless man may obtain a title, at a nominal cost, to an estate which will make either himself or his children rich, as settlement and society perfect—as a "curse from on all to intrinsic value—it is seen to have a basis of sound sense. If, on the other hand, wasteful and exhausting methods are pursued, the temporary want of system becomes habitual chaos, a stigma is saagely placed on such practice, and the result is a degraded agriculture, ever unprofitable and ultimately unprofitable.

Of our yield of wheat, for instance, is decreasing slightly, it is not because of the absence of all progressive elements in our agriculture, but from the fact that the area of its production is going to pioneer farmers, for the temporary purpose of moneymaking, with reckless indifference to destruction. Nor is the decline in yield wholly or mainly the result of depletion; it is often caused by careless culture, which fails of its object, and by bad seed, which ultimately overshadow and straggle the crops.

It is well known that the British farmer obtains larger average yields than any other country. A small area and a large resident population have made necessary a high state of cultivation and increased production. Science has been invoked, English, German and French experiments have been tested, capital without stint and business acumen have aided in the effort to obtain larger supplies of bread and meat from a given area.

Where this necessity has not existed, even in the British Colonies, the yield of wheat scarcely exceeds four or five bushels. This is the case in Canada, in the Australian Colonies, and in New Zealand. In Europe the only close competitor of Great Britain in productiveness of the wheat area is Holland, a densely peopled country in which high culture has become the rule.

The average rates of yield for wheat in bushels in some of the principal countries of Europe is as follows: United Kingdom, 27; Holland, 27; Spain, 23½; Norway, 22; Belgium, 20½; Prussia, 17; France, 17, and Austria 14.5. Other countries are in proportion. The range in England is from 20 to 35 bushels.

WHEAT CULTURE IN ENGLAND.

Great Britain has a moist climate, less subject to drought than ours, yet the best yield in ten years was in 1868, a season remarkable for its high temperature and continued drought. The use of the manure of this country is confined to wheat, which is mainly produced along the eastern and southern seaboard, a belt less humid than the northern and western counties, and scarcely extending through three degrees of latitude, in which little more than three millions of acres are cultivated—about the same area as that in wheat the present year in Iowa and Minnesota. The soil is not naturally so superior as to account for the high rate of production, which is mainly due to thorough comminution, manuring and cultivation of the soil. All heavy lands are first underdrained, then deep plowing follows, and then the sub soil is broken; crops of clover collect ammonia from the atmosphere and form nitrates in the soil; crops of turnips, made plethoric by the use of commercial fertilizers, are eaten from the ground by sheep in such a way as to furnish the special immediate manuring for the wheat crop; after which the wheat is drilled in rows as straight as an arrow—the rows generally having a breadth wide as that stirred by a common harrow, passes once, sometimes twice, with care and celerity between the seed and after starting the soil and uprooting the weeds, while gangs of hands subsequently pass through the fields to extirpate the larger remaining weeds, which would otherwise go to seed and reproduce further abundance. Judicious rotation usually comes in to complete the system, and the crops and utilize most economize in the highest degree of plant food assimilated by the various crops.

Almost universally commercial fertilizers are used, not as a substitute for, but as a supplement to, and an adjunct of and complement to the home manures obtained by the feeding of cattle and sheep, and by the various resources of clovering and grazing and tureing. It is a confidently received opinion that paying productiveness cannot be permanently maintained without the consumption of a considerable proportion of the farm products of domestic animals. This opinion is accredited with a common sense basis, and has the sanction of long and successful experience; in the case of the farmer of average skill and traditional practice it is assuredly the only safe rule to follow, as a matter of economy in fertilization; except in peculiar circumstances of soil and situation, where suitable artificial aids are abundant and cheap, it is a theory which should be closely adhered to in practice.

The writer then gives a practical illustration of the success of the advanced style of cultivation by narrating a visit he made to the farms of John Prout, a London merchant. They were situated in Hertfordshire near Sawbridgeworth, about thirty miles northeast of London. They comprised 460 acres, the soil of which was a clay loam, which had been worked only three or four inches in depth, was "clove sick," and so unproductive that it was sold at the low price of £35 per acre. The neighbors were inclined to regard with derision the expectations of the city farmer, and freely prophesied a loss of patience or money, or both, and the abandonment of the effort. His first movement was the destruction of most of the hedge rows, which divided the land into fifty-one irregular, small and inconvenient parcels, thus saving, in the space occupied by hedges and ditches, sixteen acres, at a cost of £315 for the improvement. A further gain of two and a half acres was made by filling in ditch and ponds.

The area was divided into twelve fields. Exchanges of land were effected and lines straightened to economize the work of culture by the use of steam. A thorough system of tile-draining was then constructed, and an open ditch cut at one point to facilitate surface-drainage. These improvements brought the cost of the investment to £50, or $250, per acre. Being now ready for soil preparation, he bought a set of John Fowler & Co.'s steam-plowing tackle at $6,000, and kept it at work much of the time, in 1869 and 1869, plowing 1,401 acres, sub-soiling 277, and scarifying 459; in all, 2,138 acres in those seasons. The cost of this plowing, in comparison with horse-power, is deemed less than the same depth of pulverization by the old method, though more per acre than the shallow culture formerly practiced. Some neighbors who doubted the economy of steam were offered a round price, $5 per acre, for similar work, but, after making experiments with an acre or two, declined to proceed even at that price. After the first four years little subsoiling was deemed necessary.

The results of this course were to the highest degree successful.

The average receipts per acre, without any expense for harvesting, during the past six years, after the seed bed had been deepened and put in proper condition, have ranged from $30 to $60 per acre. The largest yields were in 1868 and 1870, seasons very favorable to wheat production, especially the former.

The total annual expenditures, including manua labor, machinery, artificial manures, interest, rents rates, taxes and incidentals, amounted to $17,000.

The total proceeds of 1870 were equivalent to $26,000 in gold, and for a series of years have averaged $23,000, while the net profit, after laying aside $4,500 in lieu of rent, is about $6,000. This is 45 per cent. of the gross returns. The soil is in excellent tilth; its burden of weeds this summer, as seen in June, was uniform and of vigorous growth, and it is quite evident that with judicious cultivation more than average crops may yet be expected in the future. The ultimate result is a subject of conjecture with farmers, but the proprietor has no fears while he continues to obtain, from so little labor, not less than $60 per acre.

The universal opinion of English farms not only proves the value of fertilizers but the advantages of deep cultivation, judicious fertilization and thorough culture.

"There are in this country," says Mr. Dodge, "abundant resources for improvement of the soil without any extensive use of commercial fertilizers. There is required a constant exercise of a discriminating judgment in adapting means to ends. There are soils in so complete comminution and naturally possessing the fine drainage that manuring is unnecessary, upon which frequent and light surface-manuring is indicated. Let our farmers first know intimately the characteristics of their soils, and then apply liberally, though economically, the means of securing large returns from them."

DR. B. R. K.

THE NEW CONSTITUTION.

An Able Opinion Upon the Powers of the Convention.

The following communication, printed in the Philadelphia *Inquirer* of the 19th, is said by the editor of that journal to be 'from the pen of a Democratic member of the Philadelphia bar, standing at the head of his profession." The *Inquirer* regrets that it is not permitted to give his name, as his thorough legal training, high integrity and ripe experience are such that his opinions would have great weight in this community:"

No steps appear to be taken to test the legality of the mode in which the new Constitution is to be submitted to the people, and yet it is of the greatest importance that the course of the convention should be either approved or disapproved judicially before the election is held. If the convention has the right to disregard and set aside the act of Assembly under which it was convoked, and to prescribe a mode of election different from that which the Legislature has prescribed, this right should be ascertained and declared before the election is held. If no such right exists, every consideration of public policy demands that the decision against the right should precede the election. The evils which will result from a state of doubt and uncertainty as to whether the new Constitution is the law of the land after the 1st day of January, 1874, can hardly be exaggerated.

I know that it has been alleged that the convention is invested with a sovereign power which cannot be questioned by any court or authority in the State, and that no judicial tribunal will venture to question any of its acts; but this is mere gasconade, which I am sure will be repudiated by the great majority of the members of that body.

If the Supreme Court of the State should decide that they have the right to put the question of adopting or rejecting the new Constitution must be "conducted as the general elections of this Commonwealth are now by law conducted," as the act under which the convention at once acquires and govern itself accordingly. Any other theory would be fraught with revolution and anarchy.

That the doubts entertained concerning the legality of the election proposed to be held in Philadelphia on the 16th of the next month are serious ones, can hardly be questioned by any one who will give the subject a candid consideration. The act of April 11, 1842, under which the members of the convention were elected, provided that the convention when elected, assembled and organized, should have power "to propose to the citizens of this Commonwealth for their approval or rejection a new Constitution or amendments to the present one, or specific amendments to be voted for separately," and that "the election to decide for or against the adoption of the new Constitution or specific amendments shall be conducted as the general elections of this Commonwealth are now by law conducted."

The members of the Convention were, therefore, elected for the purpose indicated, and no other; and there certainly seems to be the strongest reason for denying to them any authority other than that conferred by the act under which they were elected. If the Legislature had appointed a committee of six members to prepare a draught of a constitution, could the commission have arrogated to itself the power to declare its draught the Constitution of the State without any vote of the people, or after a vote taken in such manner as it should determine? It is impossible to suppose that a pretension of this character could be seriously made, and yet the Convention, which was elected to prepare the plan or scheme of a new Constitution, now undertakes to assume the right to adopt and declare as such a plan or scheme shall become the supreme law without any election by the people, or notwithstanding an adverse election, if they can disregard the law which called them into being in one respect, they can disregard it in all.

But it is said that, under the act of June, 1871, the people of this Commonwealth had, at the election in October, 1871, voted in favor of a Convention to amend the Constitution, and that was the duty of the Legislature to provide for the election of a sovereign convention—a convention invested with arbitrary power to ordain what they thought fit, untrammeled by any restrictions emanating from the General Assembly or from any other source, and it is therefore urged that the people's election should be such a convention as the Legislature were bound to provide for. The fallacy of this argument is obvious. There is no legal presumption that the action of the Legislature is what it should have been. The Legislature might have altogether omitted to provide for the election of a convention. By so omitting they would have disregarded the instructions of their constituents, but where would have been any legal remedy? They did not, however, omit to provide for the election of a convention; but they provided for the election of a convention, not to ordain a constitution, but to prepare a draught of a constitution for submission to the people at an election to be held according to existing laws, and it is difficult to see on what theory this convention can be converted into an arbitrary, irresponsible body, having power to annul the present laws of the Commonwealth. Admit that such a body should be convened; still, not having been convened, it has not and cannot have a legal existence, and, in fact, the people never meant that it should have existence. They never dreamed of submitting the destinies of the Commonwealth to the absolute discretion of any body of men, no matter how respectable. Every one supposed that the action of the convention would be merely advisory, and not legislative.

Besides, if the Legislature had had no power other than that merely providing for the election of a convention which, when convened, was to exercise the supreme power of the State; if every attempted restriction or qualification of the authority of the body thus to be convened would have been null and void, although contained in the act which submitted the choice of the convention to the vote of the people, can it be said that the present convention derives its authority from any *election by the people*, using the word *election* in the sense in which it was always understood in this Commonwealth before the dissemination of the ingenious theories by which the vote of a minority was to be equal to that of a majority?

It cannot surely be contended that the General Assembly of this Commonwealth could confer, or procure to be conferred, the absolute sovereignty belonging in the people upon a body of men chosen by an election at which only 275,000 out of 600,000 voters of age should vote, or at which the candidates receiving the lowest numbers of votes should be declared elected. On the contrary, I think, it will be admitted that the only sovereign convention which can be assembled in this State must consist of members who have received a majority of all the votes cast by their constituents. But the present convention was not so constituted. Many of them were the choice of the minority of voters of the twenty-eight members representing the State at large, as many were the representatives of the minority as of the majority of the people. The vote of the fourteen representing the majority might have been, and no doubt often was, neutralized by the vote of the fourteen representing the minority. The mode of election which brought about these results was certainly not that by which the sovereign majority of the people are to be represented in convention, although there may have been no particular objection to its being used as the means of assembling a certain number of citizens to prepare an instrument which the people might afterward adopt as the Constitution, if they should think fit so to do.

There would seem, therefore, to be weighty reasons for holding that the present Convention is not sovereign; that it must conform to the requirements of the law which called it into being; that it cannot annul the election or any other law of this Commonwealth, and that the instrument which it has prepared, unless adopted at an election held in the manner prescribed by the act which called the Convention into being, will remain, as it now is, a mere theoretical scheme, and not the Constitution and supreme law of the State.

OIL IN WASHINGTON COUNTY.

Continuation of the Butler Oil Belt Through the Northern Part of Washington.

More or less interest attaches to the continual flow of inflammable gas at certain localities in Washington county, and the indications of oil at various points. A correspondent of the *Advance* gives the following upon the subject which will interest many readers: From recent discoveries we think it more than probable that the northern part of Washington county is a continuation of the great oil belt in Butler county. By tracing the course of the oil in that county you will find the same line passing through the northern part of Washington county in the direction of the oil bearing region in West Virginia. Then again in a line from Smith's Ferry to the Greene county oil region, you cross the former line on the waters of Harmon's creek, in Washington county. Now it is well known that oil does not always follow gas, yet gas is always found in connection with oil. The correct theory is, I believe, that gas, being lighter than oil, is continually pressed outward and upward; consequently, if a strong vein of gas is found at different points, indicating parallel lines or streams of it, the presumption will follow that oil exists between these lines, forcing the gas to either side of the stream of oil. Now, what I have already stated is principally theory. I will now give some facts in support of this theory. In the vicinity of Washington, on the lands of Mr. Hess, inflammable gas is found in large quantities, that ignites very readily and burns with a bright flame. On the same stream, about a a mile further north, it is found; then again one-half mile, and again three miles further north, on the same line. Now, here is a line of gas, at least six miles long, in a direct course, terminating at an old salt well, where years ago the gas escaped in large quantities and burned with a brilliant light that attracted many persons from a distance to see this unusual phenomenon. Many supposed that the end of this mundane sphere was drawing nigh by a general conflagration of all things. The burning, however, ceased, and their alarm with it; and to this day the people of the Chartiers valley have lived upon this cauldron of oil entirely unconscious of their danger. But there is another gas line, commencing at Smith's Ferry on the Ohio river, and running in a northeasterly direction, accompanied with gas; then at the mouth o, Yellow creek, about ten miles distant; then again on Cumberland, about fifteen miles from Smith's Ferry; there is a very large flow of gas that is now being utilized by a manufacturing company. Now, this line of oil and gas is defined fifteen miles in length, almost parallel with the line through Washington county. These lines are almost thirty-five miles distant from each other. If, then, my theory is correct, must not oil be found in an intermediate point between the lines indicated? But, fortunately, we are not left altogether to conjecture, as some time in 1866 or 1867 a company examined the oil belt in region. They commenced at Harmon's Creek, at Hanlin Station, on the Pan Handle Railroad. At a depth of about five hundred and seventy feet they had a very fine show of oil. Nothing would satisfy them but a flowing well of at least one hundred barrels capacity. To insure that they must go to the thirty hundred feet. Without getting their show, they continued operations; but the ground was soft and of such a character that it caved on the tools to such an extent that they became fastened, and their funds exhausted, when they abandoned the enterprise in disgust, leaving their tools, money and ambition at the bottom of the well. But they are confident the oil is there in sufficient quantities, if they had not been unfortunate in losing their tools. Is not this locality worthy the attention of oil men and capitalists.

OLD TROY.

Dr. Schliemann on the Site of Ancient Troy.

[illegible] has written a letter to the Augsburg *Allgemeine Zeitung*, in which he defends the validity of his conclusion that he has discovered the Troy of Homer. The *Pall Mall Gazette*, of October 2, gives the following abstract of Dr. Schliemann's reasoning:

"Wherever there has been an old town, he says, our excavations yield us potsherds, nothing being so indestructible as baked clay. No town can be older than the oldest nor more recent than the most recent potsherds found in its ruins. At Bunarbashi, on the Balidagh, where Welcker and other scholars suppose Ilion to have stood, excavations have never yielded any potsherds of a higher date than the sixth century, B. C. Sir John Lubbock, who had the so called tomb of Hector on the Balidagh excavated, found no terracottas there of an earlier date than the sixth century, B. C. Dr. Schliemann considers this as proof sufficient that the ruins there cannot be those of the ancient Ilion. Again, that ancient Ilion was not situated on the plain of Bunarbashi, where Welcker placed Ilion, but likewise the hills of Chiblak, where Clarke and Barker Webb placed it, and the high ground near Atzik-Koi, which others thought he had discovered its ruins, but nowhere has he found any traces of human workmanship. The village of the Ilians (*Ilion Ilienses*), where Strabo, following the theory of Demetrius, of Skepris, placed Troy, was carefully explored by Dr. Schliemann, but nothing was found there except potsherds of the first century, B. C. In the place, on the contrary, where Dr. Schliemann has lately dug up the very crown jewels of Priam, there are to be found from three to three metres in length images of marble, slate, bone and ivory, goblets and vases, and on all of them the form of the Ilian Athene, the patron goddess of Troy, a female figure with an owl's head; nay, on one [illegible] there are no fewer than a hundred small idols of the same goddess."

STATE NEWS.

A Committee of the Danville Young Men's Christian Association have recently called on the tobacco and cigar dealers of that place and requested them to refrain from selling their merchandize on the Sabbath. In every instance a ready acquiescence was given to the request.

THE Lewisburg Chronicle says the colored boys of that place have established a reading room, while the plain white boys stand shivering on the street corners. The civil rights bill ought to be so construed as to allow these white boys to partake of the good things furnished by the more enterprising colored brethren.

John Fraser, of Erie, a native of Scotland, was found dead in his bed Wednesday morning. He had been drinking heavily the previous night, and is supposed to have died from a hemorrhage caused thereby. He leaves a destitute family in Scotland.

HARRY Gilmore has been appointed Committee for trial on the charge of murdering Lieut. Reynolds, proprietor of the Empire House at Corry.

Charles T. Speaker has been appointed postmaster at Chillisquaque, Northumberland Co., in place of Norman Butler, deceased.

A "Professor" Miller has been stirring up the Lancaster bar by declaring in a speech he made in the Teachers' Institute in that city that he had been reliably informed that there were not two members of the bar there who believed in the existence of a God.

Work at the Reading Cotton Mills was resumed on Thursday.

A disease called garget has appeared among the cows in Schuylkill county.

The scaffold in the jail yard at Williamsport has not been taken down, but awaits the execution of the murderer, McLaughlin.

John Peoples has been acquitted at Reading, of the killing of James Horan.

Two horses driven by Wilson F. Fatchey, of Eaton, Wyoming county, were killed by a locomotive of a passing train, in West Pittston, on the 17th inst. Mr. Fatchey narrowly escaped death.

The Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad carried 28,357 bushels of apples from Oswego to New York, in three days of the present week.

C. Wheeler, of Erie, aged 17, passed the best examination for the cadetship from his district, and has been recommended by the Committee.

The Lewistown *Gazette* begins its Christmas story this week, promising to reach the conclusion thereof in time for a happy celebration of the festival.

The northern tier of counties had six or eight inches of snow this week, and enjoyed good sleighing for a day or two.

At the monthly meeting of the Franklin Loan and Building Association, at Altoona Wednesday evening, payments on stock were made more promptly than on any former occasion, and the money sold at from 50½ to 53½ per cent. premium.

The Courts of Erie county have ordered the copying, for re-indexing, of all the deeds and mortgages now on file in the Register's office dating from [illegible] present time.

Judge Reichard of Wilkesbarre has returned from Europe, where he has been spending several months.

The new Catholic church of St. Rose of Lima, in Carbondale, will be dedicated on Sunday, the 23d inst.

The Doylestown gas works will be completed in a few days.

The Scranton *Times* has been considerably enlarged.

An Irish negro from Cork resides in Delaware county.

The three-feet-gauge railroad between Montrose and Tunkhannock will be completed by the first of December.

It is stated that a vein of anthracite coal over five feet in thickness has been discovered at East Charlestown, Tioga county.

The Lehigh and Susquehanna Railroad has now a double track between Easton and Bethlehem. In about a year the double track will be completed to Scranton.

Five thousand miners and mechanics in and about Scranton have agreed to subscribe ten cents per month each towards a memorial fund for the support of the Lackawanna Hospital, in that city.

Mr. Jonathan Owen, of York, found last week an old Philadelphia paper on the back of a looking-glass which he purchased in that city thirty years ago. The *General Advertiser* is the name of the paper. It is dated Wednesday, October 27, 1790, and was published daily in Philadelphia by Benjamin Franklin Bache.

Reading's financial aspect is said to be anything but satisfactory. The appropriations for the current year are exhausted; much work done is unpaid for; a considerable notion of the fiscal year is yet to run.

Peter Haggerty was found dead in an engine house at Petrolia City on the 18th inst. Intemperance did it.

The school house at Tarr Farm, Venango county, was destroyed by fire on the 17th inst.

An old man named Russell fell dead at Petroleum Center, a few days ago.

The men of the Williamsport *Gazette and Bulletin* establishment will distribute 200 loaves of bread to the poor of that city on the 27th, and the Board of Trade 300 loaves.

A new M. E. church will be dedicated at Newell's, Lycoming county, on the 7th of December.

In Altoona a team of horses attached to a hearse ran off and spilled out the coffin. The lid came off the latter and exposed the corpse to view. The deceased lady whose funeral was thus interrupted, was ninety-three years of age.

A chicken hawk flew down to the Schuylkill at Reading and gobbled up a sucker, seventeen inches in length. The hawk was afterwards shot and the fish was taken from its stomach alive. The hawk is now stuffed with saw-dust and the sucker swims in the St. Cloud Hotel. Thus saith the Allentown *Chronicle*.

A chicken with four wings and four legs is Pottsville's latest *lusus naturæ*. It "died a-borning," though.

Two boys and nine women were arrested at Johnstown, on Wednesday, for stealing coa from the cars on the Pennsylvania road.

The once popular Danforth House, at Pittsole City, which cost $28,000 originally, was sold, the other day, for a ten dollar note.

Edward Dougherty, aged fifty-five years, was choked to death in Philadelphia, a few days ago, while trying to swallow a large piece of corned beef. He is said to have been intoxicated at the time.

Chester county has a "weather gauge" man ufactory.

Hay sells at thirteen dollars a ton in Honesdale.

Martin Hunt, of Dunmore, Luzerne county, fell down a sixty foot shaft, and was instantly killed.

The other night some villain attempted to assassinate Robert McCurdy, while in his residence, at Conshohocken, by firing a gun at him from the outside.

This story is told in a letter from Boston to a Chicago paper: "About a year ago one of the Captains of the police in this city was removed from office on account of some irregularity in his official conduct. Some time prior to this act of decapitation, the officer, attentive in his office duties, ministered to the wants of a stranger who had been brought into the Second Station, and who was suffering from several injuries, having been run over on State street. After the stranger's recovery he called at the station house and kindly thanked Captain Whitcomb for his services, at the same time noting his name and address. A few weeks ago a legal notice was received by the Captain that this gentleman, who proved to be a rich lumberman of Western Pennsylvania, had recently died, leaving in his will $10,000 to the officer who had unconsciously cast his bread upon the waters."

The Evangelical Lutheran Church at New Florence, Indiana county, will be dedicated on Sunday, December 7th.

Maria Hogle was burned to death in Lewistown on the 15th inst, her clothes having been set on fire by the explosion of a lamp.

Three new oil wells were struck last Friday —one on the Doherty Farm, near the Potter Farm; four 400 barrels; one on the Brown Farm, near Modoc city, doing 500 barrels, and one on the Morrow Farm, at the same place, doing 400 barrels.

A meeting of oil producers was held at Parker's Landing last Friday, about a hundred persons being in attendance. Resolutions were passed urging the absolute stoppage of every drill until the 1st of April next.

THE Allenton *Chronicle* says: "We have it from reliable authority, that if the puddlers of the Glen Iron Works do not this week go to work at the rate offered, $5 50 per ton, two of the large furnaces will be turned into heating furnaces, and scrap iron run altogether."

WILMINGTON, Del., has decided to issue scrip, by the circulation of which she made money during the war. The excuse is that the issue of the same could enable the city to keep the men employed on street work.

THE Sunbury *Daily* says of matters at Milton: "The car works suspended operations on Saturday night, and discharged the entire force of workmen, about 250 in the building shop, who will probably have work for another week, when the shops will be entirely closed. Not a single car was turned out last week. All this throws about 300 men out of employment, and will be a hard blow to the business men of Milton, who had always been depending on 'car works pay day' for reaping a good harvest."

THE extensive tanners, Palens & Co., Monticello, N. Y., have failed, their liabilities being estimated at from $200,000 to $300,000. The assets will fall far below their liabilities. The financial pressure is said to be weighing heavily on the lumber and tanning interest in that part of the State. What money there was throughout that region was used in getting the fall's run of lumber to market along the Delaware, for which not a dollar has been returned.

The lumber trade and the manufacture of of flooring, doors, widow-sashes, &c., are among the leading industries of Philadelphia. There are some 90 saw, planing and turning mills in the city, and not half as many men are employed in them as last year, but the decrease in numbers has been gradual and extending through several months past. There have been few hands discharged since the panic began, most of the mills working on reduced time.

THE Indianapolis *Journal* says that the present aggregate deposits in the associated banks of that city are $1,600,532 less than they were on the commencement of the panic, showing that if there is any hoarding of money in that city it is not by the much-maligned banks. In reference to the business situation, the *Journal* says that Indianapolis now has the full effects of the money pinch than any other city in the nation. Not a single firm or house has failed; her immense building operations have gone forward without interruption, and business has a livelier aspect, if travellers speak the truth, than any other town of the same importance on the continent."

The Reading *Eagle* says: The lock works and foundry of Messrs. Jones, Oaks & Co., on South Tenth street, are again in full operation, employing a large number of hands. A majority of the employees are working by the day and night in order to fill the large number of orders for goods daily received by the firm.

It is reported, by those who are supposed to know, that the Reading cotton mill will not go into operation until after the holidays. This, certainly, is bad news to the three hundred operatives daily employed in the mill, the majority of whom are females supporting aged parents.

Jackson, Calhoun and Crawford.

[From the Boston Commercial Bulletin.]

It was rumored, as far back as in 1819, that a proposition had been made in Mr. Monroe's Cabinet to censure General Jackson for his conduct in the Seminole War. It was known that an investigation had been instituted in the House of Representatives. At whose instance? President Monroe disavowed any sympathy with it. He lowered upon it the presidential frown.

Rumor whispered that Mr. Calhoun had put the ball in motion. This rumor assumed tangible shape in the columns of the *Aurora*, a paper published in Philadelphia, and devoted to the interests of General Jackson. General Jackson indignantly repudiated the rumor, declared his entire confidence in the friendship and honor of Mr. Calhoun, and called on the editor to retract the statement, to retract and deny the charge, which was accordingly done. And on his way to Washington to meet the Congressional investigation, at a public dinner given him at Abingdon, Virginia, he gave as a toast:

"John C. Calhoun. "An honest man's the noblest work of God."

And, as a still further proof of his faith in the integrity of Mr. Calhoun, and of his eagerness to vindicate him, he pointed to the fact that Jerusalem Burgin, a free negro in the House of Representatives was moved by a friend of Mr. Crawford, the political rival of both General Jackson and Mr. Calhoun. For once Madame Rumor has been discredited, and that unjustifiable fact that a friend of Mr. Crawford had moved in the matter was made to sustain the presumption that he was the secret Cabinet assailant. Jerusalem Burgin was the political rivalry between General Jackson and Mr. Crawford assumed the character of a virulent personal feud.

Mr. Crawford vouchsafed no word of explanation, although he well knew that by the utterance of that word he could remove the imputed stigma from his own character and brand it upon the forehead of his successful rival.

Ten years, characterized by political struggles, contested with unusual violence, passed by, and the mysterious affair still remained clouded in obscurity. Twice Mr. Calhoun had been elected to the Vice Presidency, running on the same ticket, and embraced in the closest friendship with General Jackson. They were both enjoying the full effulgence of the popular favor, while Mr. Crawford had passed into unnoticed and hopeless obscurity, obtaining a modest livelihood by filling a judicial office in Georgia.

In November, 1830, a memorable dinner was discussed at the Executive Mansion in Washington, Present, Major General Jackson, President of the United States; James Monroe, ex-President; Martin Van Buren, Secretary of State; Samuel D. Ingham, Secretary of the Treasury; John H. Eaton, Secretary of War; John Branch, Secretary of the Navy; John McPherson Berrien, Attorney-General; William T. Barry, Postmaster General; Finch Bingham, Marshal of the District of Columbia; Major Andrew Jackson Donaldson, private secretary, and Major Wm. B. Lewis, confidential secretary of the President. To the last named we are indebted for the account of what transpired.

"After dinner was over, the company retired to the parlor, but did not remain long before they all left, with the exception of Mr. Eaton. The General rang for a servant, and ordered his pipe to be brought to him, as was his usual habit after the company had withdrawn.

"His pipe was brought, and he seemed to be in deep meditation while smoking; and, as I supposed, was paying no attention to the conversation between Mr. Eaton and myself. He heard me, however, inquire of Mr. Eaton if the remarks of Mr. Ringold about the Seminole War and Mr. Monroe's Cabinet did not surprise him, and, starting up from his apparent revery, demanded to know what we were talking about.

The answer brought out the fact that Mr. Ringold had said that Mr. Calhoun was unfriendly to General Jackson on the Seminole question. The General remarked that Mr. Ringold must be mistaken.

Mr. Lewis replied—

"I am not sure of that."

"Why are you not?" inquired General Jackson.

Mr. Lewis now informed him of the letter of Mr. Crawford, written more than a year previously, in which it was stated that General Jackson had done him injustice in charging him with being unfriendly, when Mr. Calhoun was the member of Mr. Monroe's Cabinet who had proposed to censure the General.

"Have you seen such a letter as that?" asked General Jackson.

"I have, and read it too."

"Where is that letter?"

"In New York;" said

g Commercial.

RDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1873.

A PRINTED financial circular from New York, now before us, says that "the money market was the correlative of yesterday." What relation is it, then, to the middle of next week?

THE Grangers do not intend to permit their enthusiasm to flag. One of their papers has hoisted the name of WILLARD C. FLAGG for President in 1876. He is at the head of the farmers organization in Illinois.

"WHAT claims has Chicago got for holding the next World's Fair?" What does Chicago know about its 'next world, anyhow?"—*New York Commercial Advertiser.*

Has our contemporary forgotten the great fire?

HOPKINS, Republican, has 4,974 majority for Controller of the State of New York, and PLATT, Republican, 3,489 for State Prison Inspector. Thus the Republicans elect two out of the five State officers that were chosen this year in that State.

WITH the revenue falling off from three to five millions a month, and an increase of ten million dollars in the estimates for next year, how delightfully cheering the prospect of a war with Spain, with its enormously increased taxations and burdens!

SOME of the papers are rhapsodizing about the impetus which a war with Spain would give to all kinds of business. This is mere craze. War destroys values instead of creating them, and only fools or knaves can expect a permanent or solid advancement of national prosperity from this terrible scourge of mankind.

HON. JOHN M. FRANCIS, ex-United States Minister to Greece, has resumed the editorial management of his paper, the Troy *Daily Times*. The *Times* is an able and influential Republican journal, and the vigorous pen of the veteran editor who now returns to his professional post, will be likely to make it yet more effective.

ONE of the members of the West Virginia Legislature, which is now in session, a day or two ago asserted in his place that the Treasury of the State was bankrupt; and on being appealed to by other members to withdraw the statement, declined to do so, averring that it was useless to deny it. "This," observes the *State Journal*, "is the result of two years of Bourbon rule."

THE movement on the part of the General Railroad Managers of the country, looking to the discontinuance of the payment of commissions to ticket agents, to which we referred the other day, has resulted in the agreement of the managers of seventy-two companies to abolish the system. The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company is said to be the only important corporation that does not concur.

The Ou-te-Cuba patriots have received a distinguished accession to their numbers and cause. "Sergeant" BATES, the incurable lunatic who some years ago carried the United States flag through the Southern States on a wager, and last Summer through England, has tendered his "services" to the President and to the country, offering to raise a company and have it equipped free of charge to the government. Now let us hear from Private DALZELL.

ANOTHER lie nailed. A week or two ago a tremendous howl went up from the anti-administration press over the report that the released Indian Chief "BIG TREE," with a large following, had gone on the war path. If new turns out that both SCOTT and BIG TREE are still on the reservation and have not yet broken the peace. Neither have any Kiowas recently been on the war-path, nor have they, so far as can be learned, been guilty of depredations of any kind.

WASHINGTON papers hint that evidence has been discovered going to show that the steamer Virginius was betrayed by Spanish emissaries on board, who caused her to spring a leak and managed otherwise to cripple her progress, so that the Tornado was able to overhaul her. Surprise has been expressed that the Virginius, a fast-sailing ex-blockade runner, was out-sailed by the heavy Tornado, but this theory would seem to afford an explanation.

NO ONE can doubt that eventually the Indian Territory must become a territory of the United States, and thence a State. It is now reported that there is a growing sentiment in the territory in favor of so modifying the form of government—one strong enough to protect all classes of citizens in their persons and property. The Grand Council will assemble at Okmulgee on the first Monday in December, and will, it is understood, meet the wishes of Congress in providing for the appointment of officers for the territorial government by the President. This is a considerable step in the direction of the ultimate abolition of the tribal relation.

THE official count of votes in Massachusetts is much more favorable to the Republicans than the reported results by telegraph. The vote on the entire State ticket was as follows:

	Rep.	Dem.
Governor—Washburn	72,133	Gaston 59,360
Lt. Governor—Talbot	71,792	Smith 58,136
Sec. of State—Warner	70,514	Mills 52,723
Treasurer—Adams	70,851	Chickering 54,695
Auditor—Endicott	78,266	Morse 52,949
Attorney Gen.—Train	71,936	Coburn 53,199

This shows an average Republican majority of 24,628, on all except Governor, and the liquor vote for GASTON explains the difference on that office. On a light vote, 25,000 is about the usual Republican majority in that State.

THE complete official returns of New York Show that the total vote of the State was 671, 377 on Secretary of State, and in 1871 it was 755,361 on the same office, showing a decrease of 83,984. The Democratic vote this year is 340 261, and in 1871 it was 368,745. There is therefore, apparent that the party is not so strong in the State by 27,981 votes as it was two years ago. The Republican vote is 66,003 less than in 1871, which simply demoustrates that the Republicans stayed at home, and did not vote the Democratic ticket. The figures therefore do not show any change in the polished sentiment of the State.

NOT that General BLAIR hates Spain less, but the "nigger" more. He lifts his potent voice for war and annexation because "it is not to be expected that the policy adopted by the Republican party of giving the ballot to the negro can be therefore reversed, and therefore something must be done to rid the Southern States of negro domination, and there is no way to do it but by providing an outlet for the negroes," such as that which Cuba affords. This alone, in the doughty General's view, constitutes a sufficient warranty for "wresting Cuba from Spain, and placing it under the guardianship of our flag." The elevated and unselfish character of some men's motives is simply wonderful!

IT is always safe to look with suspicion on special dispatches to the New York *Herald* or New York *World*; but it is now particularly a duty to do so. Those papers, and particularly the *Herald*, would delight to see the nation plunged into a war about Cuba, and its special dispatches are manufactured to that end. We caution our readers, therefore, to receive with many grains of allowance, any item of war news coming from that source. As a general rule, it is safe to disbelieve them, altogether. All its late dispatches, purporting to be specials from Madrid, have turned out to be either false or gross exaggerations. The great purpose of New York is to provoke a collision with Spain; and the end, with it, justifies the means.

IT HAS been determined to hold an International Oriental Congress in London, and it will open on Easter Monday. Mr. George Smith, who went out to gather fresh Assyrian treasures, and write about them to the *Daily Telegraph*, has returned laden with Oriental trophies which he is discoursing about to learned societies; and his discoveries, added to those which have long been accumulating in the British and South Kensington museums, together with the immense collection of Eastern books at the India house, make London a better place for studying Asia than Calcutta itself. Professor Whitney and several other Oriental scholars in the United States, who have high European reputations, have been invited to avail themselves of this occasion of mingling with the Orientalists of Europe.

INDUSTRIAL reports from all sections show that there is a general desire among employees to protect their workmen, so far as possible, from the effects of the business depression from which they are themselves suffering. Nevertheless, in many instances, it is found necessary, as a protection against bankruptcy, to cut down wages from ten to twenty-five per cent. A meeting of the rolling mill owners has just been held at Cincinnati, attended by representatives from Louisville, Cincinnati, St. Louis, Indianapolis, and other Western cities, at which a resolution was adopted providing for a reduced scale of wages, to take effect on the first of December. The Fall River manufacturers have also voted to reduce wages December 1st to about the scale paid in the spring of 1871. It ought to require no argument to convince the dullest intelligence that the employers of the country have not brought about the general depression, and that they are in no way responsible for it. Labor will probably have to be cheapened, or capital will not find profit in giving it employment This is the whole case in a nutshell and in the degree in which workingmen reject or accept the offers of employers to continue work upon a reduced scale, they will contribute to the restoration of prosperity, or to a more general and absolute stagnation than now exists.

ONE of the latest illustrations of the great importance of diversifying industry, comes from the thrifty little State of Connecticut; of whose agricultural activities tobacco culture constitutes a leading feature, and where, as the profitableness of the crop has become more apparent, the tendency has been to rely mainly, if not entirely, upon it for an income, without considering the possible contingencies of a glutted market or a financial panic. Both these have now, according to the Springfield *Republican*, come to be facts, and a large number of farmers, with no other resource to fall back upon, find themselves with two crops of tobacco on their hands, with poor prospects of any immediate market for it, and the probability of ultimately obtaining extremely low prices. It is as bad not to have enough, as too many, irons in the fire.

IT IS but a short time since the entire Democratic press of the country was howling over the danger of "Cesarism." It was feared by those who pointed out this danger, that President GRANT would be a candidate for a third term, and being successful, would then assume imperial power and overthrow the Republic. The apprehension was a ridiculous one; but it is still more ridiculous to see the same Democratic editors now urging the President to assume the very powers they charged him with coveting. Every effort has been made to drive him into a declaration of war with Spain, or into the commission of an act of war, although it is well known that the President cannot constitutionally exercise such power. The very men who charged him with being actuated by an imperial ambition, are now doing their best to goad him into the exercise of imperial authority. The President has shown his good sense by keeping himself within constitutional limits; and it is safe to say that if the Republic is ever overturned and the imperial purple assumed in this country, the successful tyrant will be a Democrat.

THE important interest of pork-packing appears to be in a very flourishing condition. The number of swine thus far packed this season in Chicago, Cincinnati, St. Louis, Louisville, Milwaukee, Indianapolis, Peoria, Ill., and Des Moines, Iowa, is 680,667, or 183,394 more than at the same period last season. Returns from a dozen smaller packing points in Iowa and Indiana all show an increase in the number packed over the same time last year. There is also more of a cash trade than last year, and a better demand for cash products. The demand from the English market is heavier than last year, while that from Germany is lighter. The Germans bought early last year and lost money, many German pork-packers failing. Consequently those who remain are timid and holding off. On the whole, the foreign demand will be as great as last year, and the home consumption will not be less. If the market is fed now at low prices, the packers expect a healthy demand at fair rates until the end of the season.

THE manufacturing interests of East Tennessee would appear to have suffered from the effects of the panic but lightly. Aside from the mining interests, two-thirds of all the capital invested in that section in manfacturing is in producing and working iron. Wherever the iron mills are directly dependent upon the railroads, they are mostly closed, but the furnances are still making pig, and though not finding as good prices, or perhaps quite as ready demand as formerly, they are making it so cheap that they can afford to manufacture and hold. Not only are all the old furnaces in operation, but only the other day a new and very large furnace went into blast. The miners, too, have enough to do on short time to supply the local demand in East Tennessee, which is annually increasing. The coal trade is very extensive and growing, and brings into that region a great deal of money. The prospects are that the people will get through the winter with little suffering, and with considerably better prospects for next year.

IN YESTERDAY'S COMMERCIAL we made some brief reference to one or two features of the report of the Commissioner of Internal Revenue. Further study of the report, which upon the whole is not discouraging, shows that, in giving up so much of our fiscal revenue by the repealing acts of last year, we took upon ourselves a liability seriously difficult. Congress has thus far been quite slow to fulfil. The aggregate amount of revenue this year is $114,075,456, with deductions reducing it to $113,504,072.80. Of this sum nearly half is derived from spirits, the duty on which amounts to 52 millions. On tobacco the duty amounts to 34 millions, and on fermented liquors it is 9 millions. This total of 95 millions is thus derived from three articles of luxury, in accordance with the most advanced principals of fiscal science. Banks pay nearly four millions a year, and stamps bring in seven millions, or less than half of their former yield. The whole receipts from all sources exceeded the estimates by $4,075,456 08, showing an increase to that amount, due to what is called the elasticity of the revenue. For the current year the estimate of the Department is that we shall receive from internal revenue no more than one hundred millions.

THE *St. Louis Times* kindly observes that if President GRANT should take the responsibility of making actual war in Cuba or against Spain, "there is not a Democratic newspaper in the country that will not give him due credit for thus respecting a just public sentiment and yielding to the force of Democratic opinion." That is to say—if the Executive of the nation should "take the responsibility" not alone of violating those grave principles of international law and justice which it is incumbent on him to observe, but also of disobeying the laws of his country, which he has solemnly sworn to abide by and execute—the Democratic press would applaud him therefor. The President is, by an Act of Congress approved July 27, 1868, expressly forbidden from doing any act which is an act of war or will lead to war. This is its text:

"Whenever it shall be made known to the President that any citizen of the United States has been unjustly deprived of his liberty by or under the authority of any foreign government, it shall be the duty of the President forthwith to demand of that government the reasons for such imprisonment, and if it appears to be wrongful, and in violation of the right of American citizenship, the President shall forthwith demand the release of such citizen; and if the release so demanded is unreasonably delayed or refused, it shall be the duty of the President to use such means, not amounting to acts of war, as he may think necessary or proper to obtain or effectuate such release, and all the facts and proceedings relative thereto shall, as soon as practicable, be communicated by the President to Congress."

COMMISSIONS.

We have never been able to convince ourselves of the correctness of the popular theory that special undertakings for municipal purposes can be accomplished better by Commissions than by the regularly constituted authorities. There has been, not only here, but everywhere else, a tendency in this direction that it was useless to resist; and yet, as we look back upon it, and upon its results, it is difficult not to regard it as an impulse savoring more of popular unsoundness than of sound judgment.

Our municipal governments are elected directly by the people, and the members of them feel, in some sort, a sense of direct responsibility to the people. This is a feeling never shared by such Commissions as owe their existence to some other power than the people; and whatever sense of responsibility they may act under, it is never that of having to answer to the people in their primary capacity.

It is therefore philosophically a mistake to suppose that, because Commissions are made up of good men, of the very best men, it may be, that the community possesses, their work will be better done, or more cheaply done than if done by those chosen directly by the people. Their responsibility is a divided and feeble one at best; and the further they are placed beyond the popular reach, the sense of popular responsibility continues to grow less.

We do not say that there have not been Commissions who did their work conscientiously and well, because we know that there have been, and that there are now Commissions in existence that are faithfully attending to their work. We only say that, in some instances at least, the Commissions that have done or are doing well have emanated directly from the people, as in the case of the Street Commissions, and that in others, the fact of their being successful only proves that the experiment works well in spite of, and not in consequence of, the theory on which they are based. We do not object to the *personnel* of the Commissions, nor to the way in which they generally discharge their duties; we simply insist that where Commissions are appointed to do municipal work that should be done by those who appoint them, the sense of popular responsibility is not direct enough to ensure, of itself, that fidelity to details which is absolutely needed. In other words, the system is wrong, and is based upon a wrong principle. It may work well, in numerous instances and for a long time; but, being based on a vicious principle, it must eventually bring some one to grief.

Our theory is, and we are satisfied of its correctness, that the men chosen by the people to do the work of a municipality should do it, and not shift it on to others chosen by themselves. They are the responsible parties for the tasks entrusted to them, and they shsuld do what is given them to do, not by others, but by themselves. In no other way can popular governments be carried on properly. The money raised by direct taxation on the people, or upon their credit, should be spent by those whom the people have chosen for that purpose. The men so chosen are not elected to choose others to do the required work for them but to do it themselves. In this way, and in this way only, can the people hold a remedy in their own hands for any wrong that is done them, and Commissions not chosen by the people, no matter how wisely they may act, are but a subterfuge to evade direct responsibility.

THE WATER COMMISSION DIFFICULTY—THE MEASURE OF RESPONSIBILITY AND WHERE IT LIES.

It is extremely difficult to get at the real facts in the case. Some of the Water Commission say they knew nothing of what their Secretary was doing, and the Secretary says he did what he did after consultation with members of the Commission. There is, here, an apparently direct issue of fact, and there is but one possible way out of the difficulty, which does not involve the discredit of one or the other, and that is to conclude that *some* members of the Commission were consulted by the Secretary, while others were *not*.

We desire to say, here, before adding another word, that all the members of the Commission are honorable, upright men. No one charges them with any personal appropriation of the missing funds, or with participating in their use, or with any criminal intention in the premises. This much is due to them, and in whatever is said about them, it must be borne in mind that there is no charge of personal malfeasance against them. The utmost that is laid to their charge, as a body, is that they have been negligent and inattentive to their duty.

So far as we can sift out the facts, the follow ing *appear* to be well-established statements:

First—That water bonds amounting to $477-000 were delivered to the Secretary of the Commission, by the Controller, of the proceeds of which no account has yet been rendered, and that the Commission receipted to the Controller for the same.

Second—That a portion of these bonds amounting to $223,000, was sold, and the proceeds deposited by the Secretary in his own name, with the Nationse Trust Co., instead of being paid into the city treasury, as required by law.

Third—That the remaining bonds, amounting to $254,000, were left by the Secretary with the Nationse Trust Co., for negotiation and sale, and that the Trust Co. has hypothecated these bonds with a banking firm in Philadelphia.

Fourth—That the Nationse Trust Co. has suspended payment, and the city cannot get back either money or bonds.

Taking these facts for granted, it follows that the Commission knew, or should have known, that their Secretary had obtained from the Controller bonds amounting to $477,000, for which the Commission was liable. If these bonds were sold, it was the plain duty of the Commission to see that the proceeds were paid direct into the City Treasury; and if not sold it was equally the plain duty of the members to know distinctly where they were, and how many remained unsold from day to day. This is a responsibility which the whole body did not avoid. If they receipted for bonds without knowing it, or permitted bonds to accumulate in the hands of their Secretary without following and tracing them steadily, so much the worse. The receipts fix their responsibility. It was plainly their duty to know what they receipted for, and to keep a watchful eye on what was thus entrusted to them.

It seems strange that the Commission should permit so large an amount of bonds to accumulate on their hands. Surely still more strange that they did not carefully provide for the prompt transfer of the proceeds, when sales were made, to the City Treasurer. How so large a sum as $223,000 in money could accumulate in the hands of the Secretary without their knowledge is one of those things which for the present, no fellow can find out.

The Secretary cannot escape responsibility for keeping this large sum in his own hands. It was his bounden duty to pay into the City Treasury whatever money was received from the sales of bonds; and the fact that he did not but allowed it to accumulate until it reached [illegible] if nothing worse.

The facts known at present do not warrant us to go further than this; but this far, at least, the public will go. They will hold the Commission to a strict accountability for the bonds they receipted for, and they will hold the Secretary responsible for his share in the act of withholding from the City Treasury the money that legally belonged there.

As to the legal responsibility of the Trust Company, we have nothing to say just now. We understand that its attorney has given an opinion that it is not liable to the City for the amounts involved, the whole being an individual transaction between Mr. GRIER, the Cashier of the Company, and Mr. ROSS, the Secretary of the Commission. That is a legal question which the Courts will decide. If, however, as is alleged, the bonds of the City have been hypothecated in Philadelphia, as the property of the Trust Company, there would seem to be no escape from its responsibility for them, to the City. We do not care, however, to discuss that question. The unpleasant fact remains that the City is, at the present moment, deprived of the possession of $477,000 that rightly belongs to it. The responsibility for this lies *somewhere*; and our present purpose is merely to show where it rightly does belong.

One other point, and we have done. The Councils of the city cannot shift from its shoulders the responsibility for having conferred upon this Water Commission the extraordinary power of negotiating the sale of the water bonds. The simple duty for which the Commission was created was to construct the new Water Works; and it was the duty of Councils to provide the Commission with the necessary ways and means. The Councils have a Finance Committee for that purpose, with all the needed machinery for raising and disbursing money. The burden of raising money for the new water works belonged rightly and rightfully to it, and the Water Commission should never have been burdened with it. We admit the personal purity and integrity of all the members of that Commission; but they had enough laid upon them when they undertook the work of building the works, and the Councils should have retained in their own hands the entire control of the public purse. This duty they shirked, and they overloaded the Commission with a double duty. It is very true that at least one member of the Commission seems to have sought this added trust; but the Councils having been warned, by the objections of Mr. MCCARTHY, at the time the ordinance was under discussion, that they were parting with a prerogative that belonged exclusively to themselves, must be held responsible, in some measure, at least, for the evil consequences that have followed the voluntary surrender of the rights they legally possessed, and should have retained.

A CHANGE DEMANDED.

Under the plausible argument that the current balances in the city and county treasuries should be earning interest for those municipalities, acts have been passed requiring the annual award of the custody of those balances to the bidders who offer to pay the highest rate of interest for them. The money of the county, under this arrangement, is now deposited by law in the three institutions offering the highest rate for it, and the money of the city, likewise, in three other institutions making similar offers; and the rate of interest paid on these daily current balances is from six to six and a half per cent.

Under the laws previously existing, the city and county treasurers chose their own depositories, and gave abundant security for the safe keeping of the public money; but under the present laws, the treasurers being legally required to deposit the public money where they have no control over it except to check it out on warrants drawn upon them, there is no official responsibility on their part for any losses that may accrue to city or county by the failure of any of the institutions to which the custody of the public money is thus legally awarded. The custody of the money is legally transferred from the treasurers to the banks that pay interest for it, and hence there is no liability on the part of the treasurers for the money thus taken out of their hands.

It so happens that one of the banks chosen to keep the money of the county is the National Trust Co., which has lately suspended.—The amount of public money on deposit there is variously stated at from $100,000 to $150,000, and the county is just now as completely deprived of the use of that sum as if it had never owned it. The county Treasurer and his bondsmen are not liable for it, and the only security the county has is that which is afforded by the bank itself. This, we are assured, is ample, and we are glad to hear it; but we can easily conceive of circumstances in which the county might not have been so lucky.

There is much to be said, we know, in favor of the general principle that the city and county should reap the benefit that flows from keeping a large balance on hand; but the original errors it seems to us, is in allowing any large balance to be on hand, at all. The county owes a debt of over two millions, and if it has surplus funds on hand, why not apply then to paying off its debt? Why should a public debtor be a public lender? What is the good of borrowing with one hand and lending with the other? A wise business man, with more money in his hands than he has present use for, does not go on to the street to lend it, if he is a debtor, but applies it first to the payment of his debts; and the county, if it can afford to keep a balance of $100,000 on hand, can realize $6000 on it better by paying off one hundred thousand dollars of its debt than by lending that sum to a bank The creditors of the county certainly have the first claim upon whatever surplus funds it possesses.

The same is true of the City. It has a debt of about seven millions, and that debt is constantly growing. It has been borrowing money on its bonds at 7 per cent. interest, and lending it to the three city depositories at 6 and 6½. If the average sum thus kept on hand by these depositories was applied to the work for which the bonds of the city are issued, the city would save the interest on so much debt, and run no risks whatever. We assume that this balance is kept constantly at about $300,000—often above and seldom below that sum; and it is consequently clear that the city could at any time apply $300,000 to the public work it is carrying on, and borrow that much less. Why not do it, then, instead of lending it, with the risk of bank suspensions continually hanging over it? No one of the members of Councils would carry on his own business in this absurd style. No man borrows money while he has money of his own on hand, and what is wise and prudent in the business of an individual, is none the less so in the business of a city.

If, therefore, legislation is needed in such cases, at all, it is to keep down large balances in our municipal treasuries, instead of providing for loaning the public money out to the highest bidder. Let the city and county be compelled to use their surplus cash in paying off their debts, and there never will be enough cash on hand to tempt the cupidity of any. As far back as 1833 the National Government learned the folly of depositing the public money in banking institutions; and it is a thousand pities that our municipalities are so slow to learn so plain a lesson.

SAVINGS BANKS.

It is reported from Washington that the Postmaster General, in his forthcoming report, will recommend the establishment of a Government savings bank in connection with every post office, of which the revenue exceeds a certain specified sum. Few details of the project are yet known, but some of them are that, as in the case of the ordinary savings bank, the depositor shall receive a bank book containing the record of his deposits, and shall besides receive a certificate of the same from the Postmaster General. The system will also be so arranged that by the observance of certain necessary formalities, money deposits in any office can be withdrawn from any other. Among the advantages of the plan is mentioned the entire security of banks resting on the credit of the government, and it is reported that when the money market happens to be easy large sums will thus be placed at the disposition of the Government, which can be used for the purchase of its bonds, while on the other hand, in a time of crisis or panic, the withdrawal of deposits would afford the government an excellent opportunity to put its greenback reserve in circulation.

It is further said that this scheme of the Postmaster-General will be indirectly supported, if not directly recommended, in the report of the Secretary of the Treasury, as the report will show that the savings banks of the country, at least of great sections of the country, are in a very unsatisfactory condition. This is asserted to be especially the case in the Western States, where for the most part the only savings banks known are the common banks of deposit, and where in the State laws no sufficient provision is made for the security of deposits. In view of such facts it is expected, we are told, that the proposal is to provide in the post-office for a safe, easily worked and trustworthy, in which the laboring classes may deposit their savings, will be received by the people with much favor. Wherever carefully-managed savings banks do not already exist, the want of them is, no doubt, painfully felt by great numbers, while it is grievously lamented by many, in consideration of the

Of course the project ascribed to the Postmaster-General is open to some very obvious objections. It might seem a long and decided step in the direction of centralization. There is a strong feeling in many quarters adverse to centralizing tendencies. It would considerably complicate the duties of the Government, and consequently impose heavier cares and responsibilities upon the officials of the Post-Office Department. At least many of the men at present thought qualified for postmasterships would no longer appear so; and whether it would be wise to place such additional temptations in the way of such men as in many cases it would be necessary to employ, is a question for reflection. Another objection which has been already urged against the scheme, is that, in case of even local abuses in post-office savings banks, controlled by the National Government, the only remedy would be found in a popular agitation over the whole country with the view of influencing Congress; whereas, while the great interest remains where it ought to be, in the hands of the State Legislatures, the remedy is of easier application.

It is perhaps rather remarkable that in a country like ours there should even seem to be reasons why the national government should provide savings banks *for* the people. Rightly organized and duly guarded against, both fraud and errors of judgment, on the part of managers, savings banks are completely fortified by experience, its references are so beneficent, that there is absolutely no room for doubt or controversy on the subject. In a government of the people, by the people, for the people, why is it that the Legislatures of all the States have not long ago enacted for the regulation of these institutions such laws as are needed to secure the depositors? The only reason we can think of is that the people have not adequately pressed the subject on the attention of their lawmakers. It is humiliating to compare the statistics of British and American banks of this class and to know how far our legislators, men strictly of the people, fall behind the aristocratic legislators of Great Britain in providing for the pecuniary welfare of small depositors. Of the difference—without reference to the postoffice savings banks established in England in 1861—any one may satisfy himself by a little research. The truth seems to be that in those Western States in which few or none of these institutions exist capitalists consult exclusively their own interests rather than the interests of the poorer classes. They do not choose to establish or manage a bank unless they can secure to themselves privileges incompatible with the complete safety of the depositors, a remark made some time ago in substance by the Boston *Advertiser*. Strangely enough, even Ohio, with its truly progressive and and intelligent population, appears to have utterly failed in reference to this great interest. For a great interest it surely is, affecting in an important sense the prosperity of the entire Commonwealth.

Savings banks not only encourage prudence and economy in the poor, but make available for the development of the State the aggregate of small savings which would otherwise be hoarded or squandered. Few persons who have not paid particular attention to the subject have any notion of the enormous amount of this aggregate. Such persons would be surprised at the statistics of these banks where they are well guarded by legislation and well managed, in Massachusetts for instance. We have not at hand any recent returns, but Prof. BOWEN in his "American Political Economy" states that, the returns made to the Legislature by all the Saving's Banks of that State in 1862 show that the amount deposited in those institutions exceeded $50,400,000. And he remarks that this aggregate of savings—made up by the labor and frugality of Savings of Irish domestics, small mechanics, daylaborers and the like—is more than enough to build and keep in motion all the cotton and woollen factories in Massachusetts—the aggregate capital of all those establishments in that State, in 1865, fall short of $49,000,000.

Indeed, we have no doubt that if capitalists really felt as they ought the importance of the interest, and if the people insisted as they ought to do on having adequate legislation by the State governments for the regulation of the savings' banks with the view to the safety of depositors, there would be no need of any such institutions as those which the Postmaster General is understood to favor. However the system proposed by him or substantially the same, has prospered in England, and before deciding upon its merits we had better wait for a full statement of its details.

William M. Tweed has now leisure to look back on the time when he was a thrifty mechanic, and had employment in a New York paint brush factory. It was his best day, and had he remained there he might have been a happy and useful citizen.

STARTLING DISCLOSURES.

The Water Commission in Trouble.

The Nation Trust Company Suspends with $514,000 in Money and Bonds Belonging to the City.

Councils Order an Investigation.

Conflicting Statements as to Who Are Responsible.

The rumors which had been rife in the city, for several days, touching alleged irregularities in the management of some one or other of the financial departments of the city, ceased to be such yesterday afternoon, and assumed the form of facts—facts as unwelcome as they were unexpected and startling. The first definite information given to the public on the subject, was in an official communication from Mr. Bigelow, City Attorney to Col. Phillips, Chairman of the Finance Committee, read before the joint meeting of Councils, yesterday afternoon, and printed elsewhere. From this statement it appears that Mr. John ROSS, Secretary of the Water Commission, (a Commission created for the purpose of erecting a new water works, involving an expenditure of several millions of dollars) had deposited money and bonds amounting to $514,000 with the Nation Trust Company—a private banking institution which suspended soon after the panic, remained closed for a few weeks, re-opened for a time, and finally closed on the 18th inst. in consequence of the cashier having absconded. The above large aggregate was made up as follows: Proceeds of bonds sold, $223,000; water bonds left with the bank for negotiation, $254,000; improvement (Thirty-third street) bonds, $50,000—less a credit of $13,000. It seems that the bonds not sold had been hypothecated by the Nation Trust Company, in Philadelphia, as collateral security for the payment of the obligations of the bank.

THE ACTION OF COUNCILS.

When this statement was made to the Councils, it created great surprise among those who had not previously obtained an intimation of what was coming. Col. Phillips, on behalf of the Finance Committee, assured the Councils that the stockholders of the bank, who were individually liable, were amply able to make good every dollar, and that there could ultimately be no loss to the City.

When an inquiry was made as to who these gentlemen were, Mr. Robert Liddell, a member of the Select Council, stated that he was one, and that the stockholders represented $30,000,000. All these were gratifying assurances; but it was evident to the commonest comprehension, that the Water Commission, or its Secretary, or both together, had seriously involved half a million of the city funds, and that it would be some time before the city could be made whole. A resolution was adopted ordering an immediate investigation by the Finance Committee, and that they report to Councils at the next meeting.

THE WATER COMMISSION PLACE THE BLAME UPON MR. ROSS.

Mr. Burgwin, who occupied the chair during the joint meeting of the Councils, and who is a member of the Water Commission, stated from the chair, in substance, that Mr. Ross, the secretary, had placed the bonds in the hands of the Nation Trust Company without the authority, or knowledge even, of the Commission, and that the account was in Mr. Ross's own name. The Commission, therefore disclaimed all responsibility for the act and its consequences. Mr. Burgwin was sharply interrogated by several members of Councils, but in reply said he simply wished to make the explanation which he had just made, and that it would be improper for him to go into details, or anticipate, in any manner, the work that had been assigned to the Finance Committee.

WHAT MR. ROSS SAYS.

On behalf of Mr. Ross, it is stated that, in July last, he was applied to by Mr. Grier, cashier of the Nation Trust Company, and one of the directors, to allow them to negotiate the water extension bonds, and to open an account with the bank and the Commission. He mentioned the matter to some of the Commission, and they assented to the arrangement. He subsequently delivered large amounts of bonds to the bank, and when the bank suspended the account stood as above stated. After Mr. Grier had absconded, and when the books of the bank came to be examined, it was discovered that this particular account was very much confused. It did not represent the full amount due the city. An investigation developed the fact that, instead of the bonds having all been sold, nearly half of them had been pledged as collateral to raise money in the east. All these bonds went into the hands of Messrs. B. K. Jamison & Co., of Philadelphia, and were by them credited to the Nation Trust Company of this city, making the latter responsible for them. All that now remains to be done, is to get a detailed account from Messrs. Jamison & Co., and compel a settlement with the Nation Trust Company here. It is claimed that so far from Mr. Ross acting on his own responsibility, he was but the agent of the Water Commission, and acted under their authority.

THE CITY CONTROLLER'S POSITION.

Under the ordinance authorizing the issue of $2,500,000 of additional water bonds, passed in March last, the Water Commission have full power and authority to negotiate these bonds. They are required, however, within ten days after the sale of the same, to place the proceeds in the city treasury. The City Controller is authorized to take receipts from the Commission for all bonds delivered to them for sale, and to keep accurate accounts of all bonds issued, and of all moneys which may be received or paid on account thereof. The Controller assures us that he has receipts, signed by at least a majority of the Commission, for every dollar in bonds delivered to the commission, and that so far as the regular city officers are concerned, the accounts are all straight and regular. The law seems to have been very lame in one respect, namely—that while the Commission were required to pay over, within ten days, the proceeds of all bonds sold by them, they could retain the bonds, after delivery by the Controller, for an indefinite period. The Controller states that the usual custom has been for the Secretary of the Commission, when he received an order for or wished to make a sale of bonds, to call upon the controller and get the amount required, giving the receipt of the Commission therefor. As the Commission did not meet daily, and frequently not for several days, the receipt was not always tendered when the bonds were delivered, but in these cases memoranda were made, and the receipts prepared and delivered to the controller at the first meeting thereafter, after which the memoranda were destroyed—the receipts bearing even date with the delivery. Mr. Ross received no bonds since the middle of October last, but within a few weeks preceding that date he had received large amounts.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE?

The above are the facts, so far as we have been able to ascertain them. It is too apparent that there have been gross irregularities in the use of the funds of the commission. It will be the duty of the Finance Committee, upon a full investigation of the facts, to place the responsibility where it properly belongs. It will not do for the commissioners, as a body, to attempt to make a scapegoat of their Secretary. If they permit him to divert, from legitimate use, half a million of dollars, which they held in trust for the people how can they escape responsibility? It will not do for them to say that they had no knowledge of what he had done. It was their business to know. They should have looked after this money as carefully as though it had been their own; and if they had been a board of bank directors, with half a million of capital paid in, and the daily attendance is ninety-three per cent.

The Stark county jail does not contain one piece of wood in the entire structure. The acoustic arrangements are such that the least noise of a prisoner tampering with his bolts or bars, can be distinctly heard in the watch room.

At Tallmadge, in Summit county, there is an apple butter manufactory which consumes 500 bushels of apples per day during the fall season. During the present season 3,000 gallons of apple butter have been made, also 700 barrels of cider and 500 barrels of vinegar sold.

There are rumors of extensive silver mines in Belmont and adjoining Ohio counties. A company named Grant is now at work near Beallsville, in Belmont County, determined to push the investigation through, and considerable excitement exists in that locality.

There is a state of hostilities between hunters and residents in the forests north of Van Wert. Shots are fired into the hunters' camps, their tents and wagons are destroyed, and a large number of persons are trying the experiment of shooting as close as possible to the bodies of intruders without striking them.

Coal Miners' Meeting.

A delegate meeting of the miners of the Panhandle Railroad was held on Saturday last at Noblestown, Mr. William McBrown chairman and A. Weaver acting as secretary,

The object of the meeting, as stated, was to get a better understanding among the workers on the line of this road. There were fifteen delegates present. It appeared from report received that the number of men at work in the mines named is as follows: National, 35 at $3.20 per hundred bushel; Huntsman & Miller, 6. It was decided by the majority to stand out until they get $3.60 per hundred bushel.

On motion, Mr. Archibald was instructed to call a public meeting at the same place on Monday evening.

A resolution was passed unanimously sustaining the action of the delegate convention of the 13th inst., fixing the price three dollars and sixty cents over a three-quarter-inch screen.

A discussion occurred on the advisability of separating from the river men and setting prices to suit themselves.

The question was finally postponed for the present, to be brought before the general convention.

A letter from Red Bluff, Cal., says: "The widow of the great John Brown still resides here, pleasantly situated, and surrounded with pleasant, comfortable influences."

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

Thank goodness that the fizgig and firecracker "on-to-Cuba" patriots have burned the most of their powder.

Not less than twenty-two tons of solid mineral matter is daily dealt out to the customers of the New York Croton water works.

A German savan thinks he has discovered that the alarming increase of emotional insanity is due to the increased consumption of oysters.

The Chicago pork-packers have applied the knife to 308,270 hogs since the 1st of October, against 121,708 for the same period last season.

"Bad men in disaster," observes a Democratic cotemporary, "generally lose their temper". Quite true. Tweed is said to be in the sullenest kind of a mood.

A citizen of Norwich, Mass., found an Indian in his cellar last week. He had been there since 1550, and looked mighty hungry. In fact, he was wasted to a skeleton.

Massachusetts has a landlord who, when he heard of the reduction of wages in the manufactories, at once reduced the rent of his tenants one-half. It isn't intimated that he is insane.

The Spanish language is the most easily acquired of any, and gentlemen with political aspirations will have plenty of time to acquire it before there will be openings for them.

The Supreme Court of California has decided that taxation of a mortgage on land, of the money secured thereby, and the taxation of the land is double taxation, and therefore unconstitutional.

A learned doctor has given his opinion that tight lacing is a public benefit, inasmuch as its tendency is to kill off all the foolish girls and leave the wise ones to grow into women.

Andrew Johnson has taken a "new departure." The latest heard from him he appeared in the *role* of patentee of a combination plane. As President, hatchets and rasps were his favorite tools.

Certain classes of Southerners are waiting for a Democratic restoration to get their State debts assumed, slaves paid for, etc., just as fishing worms wait for a rain to come out of the ground.

A party of English capitalists have paid $125,000 for 4,000 acres of land adjacent to Bell's Landing, on the Tennessee river, about thirty-five miles from Chattanooga. The purchase is rich in iron.

The Eastern railroads feel the panic. The shipments of freight from Boston to the West during October and November will not aggregate one-third the amount shipped during the corresponding month for the past ten years.

Nearly the whole session—of the judge, jury, two lawyers and other attendant officers of the Central District Court in Worcester, Mass., a few days ago, was occupied in trying a case which involved the enormous sum of eighty-seven cents.

From statistics recently compiled, it appears that an average of five vessels have been wrecked weekly for the past 10 years in Massachusetts Bay. The total wrecks in that period were 402, and the partial wrecks 1,824, making the entire disasters 2,226.

The Maine politicians are getting ready for the State campaign. The Republican State committee have met, and fixed the times and places of holding the State, co uncillor, senatorial and county conventions. The State convention is to be held at Concord, January 7.

A lot of old letters were recently found between the ceiling of the garret and the roof of a house at Corydon, Ind., that had been used as a post-office fifty years ago. They had been rifled and concealed by the postmaster who has been dead upwards of a quarter of a century.

That was good advice which an old man gave to his sons: "Boys, don't you ever speculate or wait for [illegible] might just as well go sit down on a stone in the middle of a meddler with a pail twixt your legs, and wait for a cow to back up to you to be milked."

OHIO

The Pittsburgh Commercial: Saturday, November 29, 1873.

FINANCE AND TRADE

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

EVENING, TUESDAY, Nov. 25, 1837.

The money market is steadily workink into better condition. The banks are discounting rather more freely to their customers, and in the outside market the improvement is also noticeable. The demand for good paper daily increases, and rates are not as rigid as they were two weeks since, still they show a wide margin, based on the quality of the paper and other considerations. The banks are charging from 8 to 12 per cent. to their customers, and some choice names find purchasers at the latter figure in the open market. Other paper anges all the way from 12 to 20 per cent. per annum.

Exchange on the east is quiet but scarce, the banks preferring to trust their own vaults to leaving large balances with their correspondents.

A list of railroads that are in default on the interest on their bonds is given in the *Financial Chronicle*. They are fifty-five in number and their aggregate bonded debt defaulted on amounts to $217,959,311, which is about 13 per cent. of the total railroad bonded debt of the country, estimated at $1,700,000,000. The defaulting fifty-five roads are made up of two classes—those paying roads which have been suddenly overtaken by the panic and obliged to suspend payment temporarily and those unwisely located and costly roads, built through sparsely-settled regions, which earn little or no profit over their operating expenses. The former will shortly recover from their temporary discredit; the latter will, many of them, have to be sold out. A great many of these latter roads have been built almost entirely with the proceeds of their bonds, and have thus cost about one-quarter to one-third more than they would have cost if built with cash. They represent nothing but their debts, which are more than their assets—that is, more than the roads themselves are worth. It is the large amount of capital invested in these non-paying and almost worthless bonds that assists to aggravate the present stringency of money.

PRODUCE AND GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE DAILY COMMERCIAL,
WEDNESDAY, November 26, 1873.

REMARKS.—The markets continue to move along slowly presenting nothing of special importance, as a general thing, dealers are confining their purchases to lots merely sufficient to meet their current wants. This, however, has been the situation for some time as our readers are fully aware. The weather continues wintersh, our rivers are at flood height the coal run will be a small one as their is very little on hand waiting shipment. PRODUCE—The market contains an abundant supply, and cash buyers can purchase at a low figure. The market contains an ample supply of game and other luxuries too numerous to mention, prices were quite reasonable. In another part of this paper will be found a carefully made out list of prices. FLOUR.—We have nothing new to note in regard to this article, the demand was of a prices that have ruled for some time past, holders manifest no indication to make concessions.

BACON—The demand is improving. Smoked meats have been marked down to a low figure.

The following are the receipts of the leading articles for the last twenty-four hours:

Flour, bbls.	474	Apples, bbls.	248
Cheese, bxs.	135	Corn, sks.	635
Wheat, sks.	3,200	Barley, sks.	3,200
Rye, sks.	236	Oats, sks.	971
Butter, pkgs.	96	Potatoes, bush.	1,200
Bacon tierces	25	Potatoes, bush.	225

The following are the receipts of the leading articles of produce received during the past two weeks:

	Last week.	This week.	Total.
Flour, bbls.	10,630	5,816	16,446
Apples, bbls.	3,078	1,438	4,513
Cheese, bxs.	3,108	2,636	5,744
Corn, sks.	6,196	2,490	8,686
Wheat, sks.	5,715	4,720	10,435
Barley, sks.	1,842	1,684	3,526
Rye, sks.	1,543	576	2,019
Oats, sks.	29,010	9,581	29,591
Butter, pkg.	195	177	372
Bacon, pieces	10,719	11,380	22,099
Bacon, tierces	84	209	293

The following are the wholesale prices, unless otherwise noted; from store, in a jobbing way, the usual advance is charged:

APPLES.—There has been a large falling off in rece pts during the week, as can be perceived by reference to our table. The demand is good at a an advance; we quote as follows: Fair to medium, $2.00@2 50; prime to choice lots of sound winter apples $3 bbl; one or two do.

ASHES.—The demand was limited, and so was the transactions holders were not disposed to make sales. The asking rates are: Soda Ash, common, 3¾@4; refined, 5c; Nitrate, 8c; Potash, 9c; Pearl, 10c; Arsenic, 6a 6¾c; Chloride, 1.60, 5c.

BORAX.—Refined, 25 ₱ lb.

ALES.—The market is steady, with a fair demand. The card prices are as follows: X, $8 ₱ bbl; XX, $9; India ale $10 ₱ bbl; Bass' English ale, in hhderkins of 32 gallons, $23 75@24; pints, 44 gals, $42 25@44 higbs, 66 gals, $62 50@65; in cases, bottled, $20 75; Wm. Younger's India pale ale in cases of 2 doz. bottles, $2 ₱ doz; Younger's sparkling ale $3 per doz; Guinness' stouts, bottled by E & J Burke, $3 per doz; Cantrell, Cochrane's ginger ale $2 25 ₱ doz; Caswells, Hazard & Co's ginger ale $1 75 per doz.

APPLE BUTTER—The supply was fully up with the demand the current rates are 60@70 per gallon.

BUTTER.—In again arriving pretty freely. The rates so far has undergone no change although the tendency is to lower figures. The present rates are common to fair 16@18c; choice to good 19@22c per lb.

BROOM CORN—Market quiet with sales red and red tipped 5¾@6¾c fair to good green 7¾@8¾c. Hurl 9¾@10c per lb.

BEANS.—The supply was fully up with the demand. Prices are without change. We note sales in regular way $2 25@2 65.

BUCKWHEAT FLOUR—The demand being limited, sales were of a similar description with prices ranging from $5@5 75 ₱ bbl.

BANNER BAKING POWDER—Market steady; sales per box ¾ cans, $1 60; ½ do $3 00; 1 lb do $5 50; 5 lb cans, $25 00 per dozen.

BACON AND PROVISIONS.—We have nothing new to report in regard to that of the reduction in prices. Sales have been more liberal. The card rates are: hams, extra, 1½c; shoulders, 9½c; breakfast bacon 11¾c; dried beef, S. C., 15¾c; beef tongues $1 50 per dozen; rib sides 8¾c; short rib do; clear do 8¾c; Pork—Extra No 1, plain hams sausage 10c. Lard—Refined, tierces, 9c; half barrels 9¾c; buckets 10c; three lb cadine 11c; in five lb cadines 11¾c; in two lb pails 12½c; in six lb pails 12¾c per lb.

CANNED OIL—We have to report a dull market without any change in prices offered at the works F. O. B. on cars 10¾alle per gallon.

CHEESE is in good demand with a fair stock to operate on. The card rates are Young America 18c; mixing 17c; New York factory 15½@15½c; Ohio dairy 12¾@13c; factory, September make 15a15½c; sweitzer 16a18c.

CORDAGE is good supply with sales $6@9 per bbl.

CRANBERRIES—the current rates are $10 to $13 00 per bbl; $5 50 to $4 00 per box.

CONCENTRATED LYE—Dealers report sales at $7 50 $8 00 per case of four dozen packages.

CORN MEAL.—We have no change to note in prices. The supply is fully equal to all demands. The ruling quotations are $3 50@4 00 for unsifted meal; in a small way from store bolted meal commands $1 60 per 100 lbs.

CANNED GOODS.—Moderately active, but prices are lower. Tomatoes are lower now that they have been so many time this season. Peaches also declined, while jWinslow's, Corn is still holding its own, as it is a monopoly, has no competition of any consequence. Tomatoes are now sold in a jobbing way at $2.25, and $2.30 per dozen for 3 lb

PICKLES.—Medium, bbls, $5 00; half bbls, $5 50; half bbls Boston mixed, $8 00; pints, plain or mixed, per dozen, $1 50; quarts, plain or mixed, $2 50; half gallons, plain or mixed, $4 50; English Hexagon gallons, mixed, $10; English chow chow, pints, $4 50; English chow chow, quarts, $8 00; English mixed pickles, pints, $3 00; English mixed pickles, quarts, $6 00; English cauliflower, pints, $3 00; English cauliflower, quarts, $6 00; English picaill, pints, $3 50; English picaill, quarts, $6 00; English white onions, pints, $3 50; English white onions, quarts, $7 50; English gherkins, pints, $3 75 English gherkins, quarts, $6 50; English Mofussil, pickles, pints, $4 50.

Crockery—The demand has improved. Dealers appear well pleased with the situation. Prices for the following grades remain firm but unchanged. We quote: Lemon biscuit 11¾c; ginger snaps 13¾c; oyster crackers 1c; soda crackers 1c; sugar crackers 2½c; butter crackers 10c; pearl 13¾c ₱ lb.

Cement—We have nothing new to report in regard to this article. Prices were as follows: Beeson's Phœnix ₱ 2 25@2 50; Louisville ₱ 2 25@2 50; Rosendale ₱ 1 60@4 50; white lime, $2 00; calcined plaster, $4 00; land plaster, $3 00@3 50.

DRIED FRUIT—The demand is not large, while the supply is more than ample. Dried apples 7c@8 ₱ per lb; dried peaches 10@12c per lb.

EGGS—Fresh ones are scarce. Holders are asking 29@30c per dozen.

FISH—Prices remain unchanged. We quote: Extra No. 1 mess mackerel, $33; No 1 mess mackerel, $28; No 1 shore mackerel $23; extra No 2 shore mackerel, $19; No 2 bay mackerel, $17; extra No 2 shore mackerel, $17; No 2 bay mackerel, $14; large No 3 mackerel, $12; No 3 mackerel, $10; Labrador herring, $8 to $9; white fish, $7 50a8 00; lake trout, $7 50a7 50; lady Georges codfish, $7 50a8 00; pickled Georges codfish, $6 50 ₱ 100; red herring, scale 30c ₱ box; No 1 $3c ₱ box.

FEATHERS.—There is little or nothing doing and can be quoted at 75@80c ₱ lb; No 2 C, 40@75c as to quantity and quality.

FLOUR—The market was steady with a fair consumptive demand. The currant rates are

State amber wheat	$5 25@5 50
State red wheat	7 75@8 00
Fancy St Louis	9 00@9 50
Good Ohio red wheat	7 50@7 75
Wisconsin Spring wheats	6 50@7 75
Minnesota Spring wheats	7 00@7 25
Rye flour	5 25@5 50

GAME—The following rates can be relied upon: Venison—Whole deer, 10@12c per ₱; long saddles, 18@20c; hams 30c per ₱.

Quails, $2 25 per dozen.
Pheasants, $4 50 per dozen.
Rabbits, $2 50 per dozen.
squirrels, $2 50 per dozen.
Wild Turkeys, $3 00@3 50.

GRAIN—There has been a large falling off in the receipts of grain of all kinds. The result is a firmer market with a tendency to advance. Wheat continues scarce. The asking rates are; Red Winter fair to prime $1 40@1 45; amber $1 50; white $1 56.

OATS—The market was very firm at a slight advance. Sales—mixed and white 40c per bushel.

CORN—Shelled is quoted in Elevator at 51@53c; new ear 50@52c; old 60a62c.

RYE—The market was unchanged although there has been a material advance in the rest. The nominal rates are 80c.

BARLEY—The market was so unsettled that correct quotations were difficult to attain.

GAME BIRDS.—Dealers report an improved feeling Latest advices from the East favors an early advance, Coffee was more active. Sugars were firm but unchanged. New crop of New Orleans Sugar and Molasses is daily expected.

COFFEE—Choice Rio, 20@21c; good to prime 23¾ a26c; fair, 22a24c, Roasted one lb packages, 30c; loose, 29¾c.

SUGARS—Patent Cut Loaf, 12¾c; Crushed, Powdered and Granulated, 11¾c; Standard A, 10¾c; B, 10¾c; Ex. C, 10c.

TEAS—Young Hyson, 50c@$1 10 ₱ lb; gunpowder, 50c@1 25 ₱ lb; Imperial, 50c@1 30 ₱ lb; Japan, 50c@1 00 ₱ lb; Oolong, 50c@$1 10 ₱ lb; Assam, $1 00 ₱ lb; Souchong, 25c@55c ₱ lb.

MOLASSES—Choice New Orleans, 70a72c; Prime, 65a67c.

SYRUPS—Extra White Drips, 70c; Sugar Drips, 60c; Amber, 60a65c; lower grades, 52a55c, as to quality.

RICE—Choice Carolina, 9¾c; Patna, 8¾c; Rangoon, 7¾@8c.

HONEY.—Is selling at 22@25c.

Four Barley—Nos. 3 and 6, 10 ₱ ft.

Oat Meal—A and B, $5 ₱ bbl.

Candles—Star, 21c ₱ lb; stearine, 14c ₱ lb; mould, 12½@12¾c ₱ lb.

HAY—The market contains an abundant supply of the various kinds. Baled sold from wharf and depot at $15@22 per ton.

HOMINY—The market has undergone no change; we are reported sales at $4 00@5 00 per bbl 120.

OATMEAL—Are in good supply with sales in a regular way $4 00@4 50 per bbl.

POTATOES—The receipts for some time past have been very light; holders were firm in their views; we note sales—Peachblows in car load, 95@$1 00; mixed, 70@80c; Baltimore sweets, $4 00@4 50 per bbl.

PRICE MEATS—The demand continues light but we have no change to note in prices. We quote at 11 @11½c ₱ lb by the lot and 12c ₱ lb by the 100.

MILL FEED—We have no change to note in prices. One car lot shorts to-day sold at $16 00 ₱ ton. We quote: Middlings $20@20 ₱ ton; from store $1 25 @1 50 ₱ 100 lbs; oats and corn chops, $1 35@1 40 ₱ 100 lbs; bran $14@16 ₱ ton.

NUTS—We can quote hickory nuts $1 25@1 50 ₱ bushel; black walnuts are dull at $1 75@2 00 ₱ bush; peanuts firm at 10@12c ₱ lb; chestnuts $5 00@$5 25 ₱ bushel.

RICE—are dull with an increased sale at 2¼@3c per lb.

SALT—The market was steady. The rates by the car-load are $1 60; in a jobbing way $1 85 per bbl.

SAPOLIO—Trade rules well for both kinds on sale, the hand sapolio meeting with good sale every where. By the case of six dozen we can quote it at $6 00, and for the hand sapolio, $5 00 ₱ case.

SOAP—Country soap is in good supply, and dealers are holding it at 5a6c ₱ lb.

TALLOW—Market very quiet at 6¾a7c ₱ lb.

VINEGAR—Choice cider vinegar can be quoted at 15a18c ₱ gallon; white wine, 35c ₱ gallon and charge for packages.

SEEDS—The market was devoid of animation. Flax seed was held at $1 85@1 90. There was no demand for Timothy or clover.

WHISKY—A shade higher, with sales of Highwines at 86@87c.

WEEKLY MARKET REVIEW.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL,
THURSDAY, November 27, 1873.

REMARKS.—With the exception of some slight changes in the prices of drugs, white lead, tobacco, hides and butter wool and crackers, the market rules about the same as at our last report. While we are not advised of any decided improvement in trade generally, the outlook is favorable for an early settling of confidence, the legitimate result of which will be a renewal of trade in all branches. The eyes of the business men are turned to Congress, awaiting its action on the currency question. And we may here state that our member of Congress and his colleagues from the surrounding districts have been and are still assidous in their endeavors to gather the views of prominent manufacturers and business men on the best method of relieving the present financial embarrassment of the country

Below will be found a carefully corrected list of the principle articles of Pittsburgh manufacture and important articles sold in its market:

ALLEGHENY LIVE STOCK MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL,
MONDAY, November 24, 1873.

CATTLE.

The receipts of cattle by the different railroads centering at the Allegheny Yards were some 26 car-loads, or about five hundred head. In addition to these, there were large droves from Butler, Greene, Beaver and Washington counties, and also from the West Virginia, swell the number to at least 1,000 head as the total of offerings. The quality of the cattle was not very good, being composed principally of the medium and common grades.

The good cattle were bought early in the morning by butchers, who are always around in time to get first pick out of the droves, and a few tops sold well, though we do not think anything brought over $6 50, no matter how good. For the medium grades there was a fair trade, but at low figures, as butchers all complained about hard markets, and this being thanksgiving week, they took for a bad state of trade and tried to bear the market down accordingly. They succeeded in getting all the cattle of this kind wanted, about last week's figures. Common stock was plenty today, and was dull sale at figures from ¾ to ¾c lower than last week. A good many of the common cattle on sale were light, averaging from 700 to 800 lbs. This kind of cattle were probably the hardest of any to sell, and we understand that the drovers who had common stock on sale complained about losing money. There were some extra cattle on sale which were good, and prices, if anything, a shade higher.

For the medium grades it was much the same as last week, while for common it was from ¾ to ¾c lower. At noon the market was virtually over, and at that time there were a good many tail ends in the pens unsold.

PRICES.

Following are the prices at which the different grades and kinds sold:

Extra 1,300 lb steers, fine and smooth	$6 00 to 6 50
Prime 1,200 " " "	5 50 to 5 75
Fair 1,100 " " "	5 00 to 5 25
Fair 1,000 " " "	4 25 to 4 75
Common "	3 00 to 3 75

ARRIVALS.

The following are the arrivals of live stock by rail at the Allegheny Yards for the week ending to-day. G. Stewart, Greencastle, Indiana..... 2 cars
S. Cochins, from Bellealr, Ohio..... 1 car
J. Cochins, from Bellealr, Ohio..... 1 car
R. Frater, from Bellealr, Ohio..... 1 car
Thompson Love, from Perry county, Ohio.. 1 car
F. Seidle, from Bellealr, Ohio..... 1 car
W. Ling, from Bellealr, Ohio..... 1 car
Marks & Bro., from Chicago, Ill..... 1 car
D. McCleasey, from Bellealr, Ohio..... 1 car
Hugh Stanton, Bedford county, Co., Pa..... 1 car
" Porter, Albion, Erie county, Pa..... 1 car
G. Palmer, Albion, Erie county, Pa..... 1 car
Wm. Henderson, from Zanesville, Ohio..... 1 car
G. T. Peters, from Marion, Ohio..... 1 car
Bland & Trimble, from Gano, Ohio..... 1 car
Wm. Thompson, from Bellealr, Ohio..... 1 car
J. Sherman, from Bellealr, Ohio..... 1 car
A. Eddy, from Sharon, Ohio..... 1 car
F. Fordyce, from Bellealr, Ohio..... 1 car
Bruno & Bro., from Cincinnati, Indiana..... 2 cars
Robinson & Co., Marion, Ohio..... 1 car
Mixed stock from different points..... 5 cars

Total..... 38 cars

Sheep.

The arrivals of sheep and lambs this week, though not heavy, have been large and sufficient to meet the wants of the trade. There was a good demand for a few extra sheep, and some sold as high as $5 50 ₱ hundred lbs. Common stock dull and slow at about last week's prices.

Hogs.

The number of hogs on sale to-daywas about 500 head the principle portion of which were in the hands of regular dealers. The demand was good, and while the prices did not rule high the market was an active one, and most of the stock in the yards changed hands.

	Prices.
Extra assorted	$ 5 00
Prime	4 75
Fair	4 50
Common	4 00@4 25

PITTSBURGH LIVE STOCK MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL,
TUESDAY, Nov. 25, 1873.

Cattle.

The receipts of cattle this week to the time of writing are two hundred and fifty through and way stock. In quality the arrivals are about the same as on many here. The demand for buyers up to the present has not been very good, but more are expected to morrow. The weather is unpleasant for the transaction of business, and it is probable that the fact that advices from other markets are not encouraging, makes trade dull and slow. Some few cattle are selling to country buyers for feeding purposes, but outside of these there is not sufficient trade to enable us to base quotations, which for the present we omit.

Hogs.

The receipts of hogs are fair. Trade is moderately active for best grades; common sell slowly. Advices are not encouraging, and the market lacks firmness. Following are about the figures at which different grades sell:

Extra Philadelphia	$4 40
Prime	4 30@4 35
Yorkers	4 00@4 10

Sheep.

The run is fair. The attendance of buyers is about the same as usual, but very little stock is changing hands; in fact, not enough on which to base prices.

WEEKLY REVIEW OF THE OIL MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE DAILY COMMERCIAL,
MONDAY, November 27, 1873.

The following are the receipts of crude oil for the past week, with a comparison table for the previous years; also the exports of refined, together with the week's transactions:

	Receipts at River & Rail.	Exports Crude per Penn. R. R.	Exports per R. R.
Monday, Nov. 17	1,864	.....	3,842
Tuesday, Nov. 18	18,487	.....	8,836
Wednesday, Nov. 19	7,094	1,995	.....
Thursday, Nov. 20	8,717	.....	9,364
Friday, Nov. 21	5,134	.....	2,233
Saturday, Nov. 22	6,450	.....	4,964
Total for week	47,740	1,995	25,180
Same time 1872	1,703,099	49,740	700,084
To Nov. 22, 1873	1,751,299	69,385	725,234
Same time 1872	1,693,333	112,967	959,933
Same time 1871	1,662,236	96,926	575,568
Same time 1870	967,756	157,923	554,475
Same time 1869	891,484	154,388	215,561
Same time 1868	1,028,622	170,131	481,190

BUSINESS.

The market during the week has undergone a variety of changes; one week there would be an advance and the next day would be pretty certain to reduce the previous day's prices. At the date of our last general review sales were made at Parkers at 89@9 90. The same figures would answer on this occasion. In our market we failed to learn of any transactions in the crude material, the nominal value being 23¢@23¾c per gallon. The receipts were large for the week, exceeding 47,000 bbls. The receipts from January to date exceed one and three-quarter million of barrels. Refined is held more firmly; holders are not disposed to make any further concessions in order to affect sales.

CRUDE RECEIPTS.

The following are the crude receipts for the past two weeks from all points by river and rail:

	Last Week.	This Week.
Crude received, barrels	45,794	47,740

The following are the crude receipts from all points by river and rail for the past nine years from January 1st to

	Bbls.
Nov. 22, 1873	1,751,299
Same time 1872	1,693,332
Same time 1871	1,957,655
Same time 1870	967,756
Same time 1869	891,484
Same time 1868	1,028,622
Same time 1867	657,402
Same time 1866	1,154,290
Same time 1865	530,204

EXPORTS OF REFINED.

The following are the exports of refined oil East for the past two weeks by the Allegheny Valley and Pennsylvania Railroads:

	Last week	This week.
Pennsylvania Railroad	1,820	1,095
A. V. R. R	23,485	25,150
Total	25,485	26,245

The following are the exports of refined oil East by the various railroads for the past five years from January 1st to November 22d, 1873.

	1873.	1872.	1871.	1870.	1873
Penna R. R.	134,388	157,993	95,925	112,967	69,825
A. V. R. R.	415,561	554,475	575,508	559,935	725,234
Total	549,949	712,468	671,433	672,902	795,059

Saturday.

CRUDE.

The market since our last has undergone no great change. Prices rule about the same as usual. Prices held here at 23¾ cts. per gallon.

PARKER'S.

Sales were made at 89 and 93 cts. per barrel.

REFINED.

The market appears firmer, although prices are without change, we quote nominally 10¾@11c. The Eastern market is unchanged.

PITTSBURGH OIL TRADE.

OFFICE OF THE DAILY COMMERCIAL,
WEDNESDAY, November 26, 1873.

REMARKS.—The market yesterday, was a quiet one, being entirely devoid of life or activity. Buyers were ind ferent about taking hold. The result was, we failed to learn of any transactions. Below will be found a l the information we could gather:

CRUDE.

Prices are altogether nominal. Oil was freely offered at 23¾c, and even this low figure failed to bring out buyers. The following sales were reported:

PARKER'S.

2,000 bbls Union Pipe	87½	
2,000 " " "	92½	
" " "	90	c

For prices at other points in the oil regions see dispatches.

REFINED.

Dullness and inactivity were the leading features of the market. Prices, however, show no change. Quotations: Free on cars at works, on Eastern shipment, 10¾@c. Western, 11c.

PHILADELPHIA, November 26.—Market quiet; spot 13¾c; December, 13¾c.

NEW YORK, November 26.—Steady at 13¾c.

OIL BARRELS

Dull, City, $1.75; country $1.65.

TITUSVILLE, November 26.—The *Herald* says: Sales and resales of crude in the Oil regions

1,000 bbls upper road, spot	$1 01¾
1,000 bbls upper road, spot	1 02
1,000 bbls upper road, spot	1 02¾
1,000 bbls S. O. 29 days	1 00
1,000 Oil City spot	1 00
1,500 Oil City spot	95
3,000 bbls Parker's Landing, Union pipe	87½
2,000 bbls Parker's, United pipe	89¾
1,000 bbls Parker's Landing, United pipe	90

Owing to the striking of a large fourth sand well, the markets to-day ruled weaker throughout the region. On the upper road the market opened at 1 01¾ and closed weak at 1 01¾. At Parker's Landing the market was weaker, 87¾ cents being bid for Union, and 90@93¾ cents for United pipe. The home refined market was quoted at 9¾ for bulk and 10¾ cents for barrels. Crude in bulk, quiet and in better demand. Sales 4,500 spot 8¾c; 3,000 December 8c; refined moderately active and steady at 13¾c. Sales of 10,000 bbls. at 14¾c; 2500 last half of December; 14¾ cases at 18¾@23¾. Philadelphia refined, 13 bid, 13¾a13¾c asked.

OIL CITY, November 25.—Market weak at $1 00, 91c.

TIDIOUTE, November 25.—Market unchanged at 85c.

PETROLEUM CENTER, November 25.—Weak; sales at 90c.

TITUSVILLE, November 25.—Weaker; spot 95c a $1 00. Nothing doing.

PARKER, November 25.—Market quiet at 85c.

PHILADELPHIA, November 25.—Market quiet; S. W. 13¾c; crude, 4¾c; crude, 18¾c; sales none; futures, December, 13¾a13¾c.

PARKER'S, November 25.—Market weak; few transactions; Union 88@88c; Fairview 85@88c.

NEW YORK, November 26.—Crude 8c; refined 13c; market quiet.

PHILADELPHIA, November 25.—Refined 13¾; crude 4½c; in barrels 10c; December 13¾c; no bids in market; nothing whatever doing.

TITUSVILLE, November 25.—The market took a tumble to-day, as reports come from down the river of new wells. Sales:

Upper, 2,000 spot	$1 50
Upper, 1,500 spot	1 00

MERCHANT BAR IRON AND HEAVY HARDWARE.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL,
TUESDAY, November 25, 1873.

The following are the card rates of Lewis, Oliver & Phillips:

Iron, standard list. Assorted sizes for large orders, 3 1-2c; card rates, 2 ₱ cent. off net.

Flat Rail, (1¾ by ¾) punched and countersunk..... 4 10c ₱ lb net
Iron wedges..... 5 c ₱ lb net
Norway Nail rods..... 9¾c ₱ lb net
Crow bars, (ordering, please state whether "Wedge" or "Pince" point
Beetle heads..... 9¾c ₱ lb net
Fence pickets, ½ round, bent to shape, 80c ₱ foot of fence. Less 5 ₱ cent. off, (discount off standard list.
Carriage and tire bolts (new list)....70 and 5 ₱ cent. off
Plow bolts..... "
Stove bolts at the list price..... "
Machine and square head bolts..... "
Coach and lag screws..... "
Bolt ends..... "
Patent hot pressed square and hexagon nuts, large sizes, (from 7-16 to 2 in.), 5c ₱ lb off, net.
Washers, all made from new band iron, small sizes, (from 3-16 to ¾ in.), 7½c ₱ lb off, net.
Washers, all made from new band iron, large sizes, (from 7-16 to 1½ in.), 5¾c ₱ lb off, net.
Nuts and washers, in 25 lb boxes, one cent ₱ lb extra.
Nuts and washers, in lots less than one keg each size, one cent ₱ lb extra.
Nuts and washers, in 5 lb boxes, 1¾ cts ₱ lb extra.
Harrow teeth, in lots of 1 ton or more, packed in casks, 1 in. diam., 4¾c ₱ lb net; ¾ and ¾ in. diam., 4¾c ₱ lb net; ½ in. diam., 4¾c ₱ lb net.
Harrow teeth, in lots of 1 ton or more, packed in casks, ¾c ₱ lb extra.
Skein bolts, in bulk, in lots of 5 kegs or more, 1 cent ₱ lb extra when less than 1 keg of each size is ordered, ¾ in. diam., 7c ₱ lb net; 9-16 in. diam. 8c ₱ lb; ⅝ in. diam. 9c ₱ lb.
Screw Rod and Eye Hinges, ¾ to 1 in. diam. ¾ to ⅞ in. long, 10¾c ₱ lb net; ¾ in. diam. 12¾c ₱ lb net.
Screw Rod and Strap Hinges, in lots of 100 pairs or more. 14 to 36 in. long, 6¾c ₱ lb net; 8, 10 and 12 in. long, 8c ₱ lb net.
Strap and T Hinges, in lots of 100 pairs or more. 14 to 36 in. long, 6¾c ₱ lb net; 8, 10 and 12 in. long, 8c ₱ lb net.
Bridge and roof bolts—
1 to 2 in. diam. over 8 feet long..... 4½c ₱ lb net.
1 to 2 in. from 4 to 8 feet long..... 5 c ₱ lb net.
1 to 2 in. diam. from 1½ to 4 feet long..... 5½c ₱ lb net.
¾ in. diam. over 4 feet long..... 6 c ₱ lb net.
⅝, ¾ and ⅞ in. diam. over 4 feet long..... 6½c ₱ lb net.
½, ⅝ and ¾ in. diam. from 1½ to 4 feet long..... 6¾c ₱ lb net.

WAGON HARDWARE.

Embracing new novelties not before offered to the trade.

Wagon box strap bolts, 10 in long by 7-16 at screw end, 5c per set of 8 bolts.
Wagon box strap bolts, 12 in long by ½ at screw end, 10c per set of 8 bolts.
Wagon box strap bolts, 10 in long by 7-16 at screw end, 7c per set of 8 bolts.
Wagon box strap bolts, 12 in long by ½ at screw end, 9c per set of 8 bolts.
Wagon box strap bolts, 12 in long by 9-16 at screw end, 10c per set of 8 bolts.
Wagon box strap bolts, 14 in long by 9-16 at screw end, $1 00 per set of 8 bolts.
Wagon box strap bolts, 10 in long by ½ at screw end, $1 00 per set of 8 bolts.
Wagon box strap bolts, 14 in long by ½ at screw end, $1 10 per set of 8 bolts.
Wagon box strap bolts, 16 in long by ½ at screw end, $1 20 per set of 8 bolts.
Five cents per set for each additional inch over 14 inches.

In ordering box strap bolts please give diameter at screw end.

Wagon box rods, narrow track, 18c each.
Wagon box rods, wide track, 20c each.
Single-tree bolts, 2¼ inches wide, 60c per set.
Wrought iron bolster plates, 2¼ inches wide, 60c per set.
Wrought iron bolster plates, 3 in wide, 65c per set.
Wrought iron bolster plates, 3¾ in wide, 70c per set.
Wrought iron bolster plates, 4¼ in wide, 75c per set.
Wagon brake ratchets, 165c each.
Wagon brake ratchets, with guard, 45c each.
Wrought hammer straps, heavy pattern, 16c each.
Wrought hammer straps, light pattern, 13½c each.
Wrought rub irons, 11c each.
Stay chain hooks, 8c each.
Double and single tree clips, figure 1, 9c each.
Double and single tree clips, figure 2, 10c each.
Double and single tree clips, figure 3, 12c each.
Strap loops, rods, single tree irons, bolster plates brake ratchets, hammer straps, rub irons, stay chain hooks and clips, in lots of 100 set, 25 ₱ cent. discount.
Wagon box staples, 1¾ to 2¾ inch to clinch, ₱ 1,000, net..... $12 50
Wagon box staples, made from bevel box iron, to rivet on, ₱ 1,000 net..... 8 50
Neck yoke eyes..... 5¾c each.
Neck yoke eyes, with ¾ inch iron..... 8 c each.
King bolts, ¾, 1, 1¼ and 1¾ inch diameter, ₱ lb..... 4½c
Wagon rivets, extra large, oval and steeple head, ¾ inch diameter, all lengths, ₱ lb..... 9¾c
Wagon rivets and nails, in 25 lb wood boxes, ₱ lb extra..... ½c
Wagon and hinge nails, ¾ inch, all lengths, ₱ lb net..... 17c
Wagon and hinge nails, 5-16 inch, all lengths, ₱ lb net..... 19c
Double tree plates..... 8¾c ₱ lb net
Coupling pieces..... 8¾c ₱ lb net
Tongue plates..... 8¾c ₱ lb net
Neck yoke plates..... 8¾c ₱ lb net
Wagon chains, 1¾, ⅞, and 2¾ inch wide with same price ₱ lb as band iron.
Wagon Chains, stay, lock and tongue, 5-16 in. 11¾c ₱ lb net.
Wagon Chains, stay, lock and tongue, ⅜ in. 12¾c ₱ lb net.

Notice the large reduction in prices of our manufactures.

Prices subject to change of market without notice. All our manufactures shipped at same rate of freight to all points.

We charge cost price for packages for hardware. No charge made for drayage of iron.

PITTSBURGH GLASS MARKET.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL,
THURSDAY, November 27, 1873.

PER BOX OF FIFTY FEET.—SINGLE STRENGTH.

Inside diameter.	24 Quality. Iron pipe.	1st Quality. Galvanized pipe.	Dbl. sth. Weight of pipe.
Inches.	Per foot.	Per foot.	Per foot.
	BUTT WELDED.		
¼	10	22	34
⅜	10	22	43
½	13	22	56
¾	18	24	85
1	20	32	1 19
1¼	29	45	1 72
1½	29	50	2 25
2	50	58	2 69
	LAP WELDED.		
2	70	1 15	3 66
2½	1 10	1 50	5 77
3	1 50	2 30	7 54
3½	1 85	3 00	9 83
4	2 50	3 50	10 72
4½	3 10	4 00	12 19
5	3 20	4 75	14 56
6	4 50	6 00	18 71
7	6 00	....	23 41
8	7 00	....	28 35
9	10 00	....	....
10	13 00	....	46 64

Terms, net cash. Payments to be made in New York Exchange, United States Treasury Notes, or their equivalent. Liberal discount to trade.

WOOL MARKETS.

NEW YORK.

November 22.—The general appearance of the market has not changed; the demand has perhaps improved a trifle, but the sales

The Pittsburgh Commercial: Saturday, November 29, 1873.

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1873.

WILL the law protect a man in breaking the law? That is the Cuban fluid, in a nutshell.

IS THERE not a good deal of the "Naboth's Vineyard" business in this Cuban uproar, and is it not because that island is so fine a piece of annexable property, that we so readily discern a cause for war in her derelictions?

"NOTHING would so surely put an end to internal wranglings and pacify the South as a foreign war."—*New York Commercial Advertiser.*

Wherein have we wronged the Southern States, that we should hurry on to the waste of millions of money, and the wholesale shedding of blood, in order to "pacify" the people of that section? Such a course would be the very acme of cowardly weakness.

THE protests against the proposed currency inflation are increasing in breadth and volume. The more thoughtful portion of the press throughout the country generally, are uttering notes of warning against the wild speculation which the scheme involves, and pointing out the inevitable collapse which must, according to the teachings of our experience, ultimately follow its adoption. Keep up the opposition to the fatal folly.*

Some interesting facts concerning the production of tobacco and spirits in this country in the fiscal year 1873 are given in the report of the Internal Revenue Commissioner. In all the forms of manufactured tax taxes were paid on 116,450,894 pounds of tobacco, and on 1,807, 134,640 cigars, cheroots, etc., etc. In the same year there were made 68,236,567 gallons of fruit spirits from materials other than fruit, and from fruits 2,914,869 gallons. The revenue receipts for the year have been $114,075,453.

NEUTRAL rights and neutral duties are reciprocal and commensurate. We cannot put off the latter and claim the latter, any more than we can forfeit the rights of neutrality while discharging its obligations. In the quarrel between Spain and Cuba, we are neutrals, possessing all neutral rights, and professing all neutral duties. On this high subject the United States has heretofore led the world. Shall we forget our own lessons, or forfeit our splendid authority as a teacher?

IT is now apparent that the falling off in customs receipts, in consequence of the financial stringency, must continue for some time. Indeed, it is estimated in some quarters that, with the present receipts, not enough gold will accrue to the treasury during the next year to pay off the bonds as they are called in and to meet the interest on the public debt. These are facts which thoughtful people everywhere would do well to reflect carefully upon before demanding that the country shall plunge headlong into a foreign war.

THE Postmaster General's report, an abstract of which has just been published, shows an increase in 1873 of revenue over 1872 of $1,081,315 20, and an increase of expenditures of $2,426,753 36. The results of the abolition of the franking privilege are declared to be satisfactory. The system of Postal Saving Depositories is *strongly* recommended at much length, with a provision that only $300 shall be deposited in one year, and no greater accumulation of deposit than $1,000; interest to be four per cent. Mr. Cresswell also repeats his argument in favor of the establishment of the postal telegraph, and for the construction of lines under the direction of the Engineer Corps of the army.

THE *Iron Age* prints some interesting statistics concerning the growth of our hardware trade with Canada, from which it appears that the total value of the imports from all countries of cutlery, tinmia and other metal ware, spades, shovels, hoes, spikes, and nails, tacks, and other hardware, for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1872, was $3,819,947, of which $1,619,278, or about forty-two per cent., were manufactured in the United States. This statement would seem to indicate that we have in Canada a very important and profitable market for our iron manufactures. The field is comparatively a new one, but with proper energy on the part of our manufacturers, it might doubtless be made to return a liberal yield.

It is affirmed, on good authority, that there are two parties at Washington, working constantly and assiduously to manufacture excitement against Spain, one composed in the main of persons engaged in the Cuban bond business two years ago, and another of a larger class who favor West India annexation. Both of these combinations desire immediate armed intervention without regard to the merits of the case, as they may appear on investigation, and without any further negotiation with Spain, and have been busy since the engagement of the latter arrive. These, no doubt, are they who are filling the country with manufactured sensational news, for the purpose of inflaming the people, in the hope that its reflex influence on the administration may finally drive the latter to a declaration of war. It is shameful.

IN a thoughtful and dispassionate editorial on the relation of wages to the existing business depression, the New York *Journal of Commerce*, one of the ablest and most influential papers in the country, states that numbers of intelligent, trained mechanics at Patterson, New Jersey, are now breaking stones on the public roads at a dollar a day. These men were until lately receiving good wages at silk factories, machine shops, and other industrial establishments. The *Journal* discerns in the willingness of these disengaged mechanics to do rough work at nominal wages, that proper spirit of concession and conciliation which will soon lead to the resuscitation of the paralyzed industries of Patterson, and contrasts it with the stupid tyranny which the Typographical Union of this city have unsuccessfully attempted to exercise with regard to the publishers of the daily papers. The *Journal* says:

"The first appearance of a rupture, this year, between the Typographical Union and those who have been its bounden slaves, was at Springfield, Ill., then again at Cincinnati, and now at Pittsburgh. These printing-office strikes are no child's play, as we can testify; they are harder to meet and vanquish than any other unjust strikes, but they tend to yield at last to decision and firmness, and if the Pittsburgh publishers are not weak-backed they will accomplish their object. The defeat of these tyrannical Typographical Unions in the press will precipitate its downfall throughout the country."

The lengths of oppression to which men who have been misled by the pernicious teachings of Trade's Unionism will go, are almost incredible. In this instance, however, the world-wide autocrats who "organize" their labor action having resulted in the complete emancipation of every daily newspaper in this city from the galling and injurious dictations and restraints which have heretofore been imposed on them. So far as Pittsburgh is concerned, the Typographical Union is an overturned despotism.

IT is now pretty definitely settled that, in order to make both ends meet, the annual expenditures of the government must be cut down to a considerable extent, or, failing this, the weight of taxation be correspondingly increased. The falling off in the revenues still continues. For the quarter ending September 30th, the revenues exceeded expenditures by six million dollars. During the month of October the revenues fell off three millions, and for the present month the decrease will be even greater than this, probably five millions. Since the first of October expenditures have exceeded receipts, and the ratio of this excess is increasing daily. At the same time the estimates of receipt from customs and from the internal revenue will be less by several millions than last year, while the estimates from the departments will, it is said, exceed those of last year by ten millions. People will do well to look carefully at these facts in their bearing upon the question of an armed rupture with Spain; and to remember that, in case of war, the burdens of taxation would necessarily, in the very face of the developments, then be made, and which have just now led to his conviction, the Democratic party of New York City elected this plunderer to the New York Senate. The party knew him to be a thief. The evidence adduced upon this judicial trial was then all placed before the public; but the proof that has satisfied a jury, was scouted by his political friends, and while the jury have, after hearing it, sent him to the Penitentiary, the Democrats of New York City, upon the same evidence, sent him as their representative into the Senate.

It is not to be wondered at, consequently, that it has required two years of persistent work to bring such a felon to justice. Where more than half the community want to reward a thief by sending him into the halls of legislation as their representative, and less than half want to put him in prison, the wonder is that the party numerically the strongest did not get him off altogether.

In the final conviction of this gigantic plunderer, there is as much, therefore, to be sorry over as to be glad of. It is mortifying to think that in a case so plain it should take a persistent labor of years to secure the triumph of justice. That the right has succeeded, at last, is of course matter for congratulation; but that it should have been so hard to attain, is something that alas! we must, as a people, be ashamed of.

CONSTITUTION.

NEW CONSTITUTION PROPOSED TO THE CITIZENS OF THIS COMMONWEALTH FOR THEIR APPROVAL OR REJECTION, BY THE CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

Published by Order of the Secretary of the Commonwealth, in Pursuance of the Fourth Section of An Act of the General Assembly, Entitled "An Act to Provide for Calling a Convention to Amend the Constitution," Approved the 11th Day of April, A. D. 1872.

PREAMBLE.

We, the people of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, grateful to Almighty God for the blessings of civil and religious liberty, and humbly invoking His guidance, do ordain and establish this Constitution.

ARTICLE I

DECLARATION OF RIGHTS.

That the general, great and essential principles of liberty and free government may be recognized and unalterably established, we declare that:

SECTION 1. All men are born equally free and independent, and have certain inherent and indefeasible rights, among which are those of enjoying and defending life and liberty, of acquiring, possessing and protecting property and reputation, and of pursuing their object and happiness.

SEC. 2. All power is inherent in the people, and all free governments are founded on their authority and instituted for their peace, safety and happiness. For the advancement of these ends they have at all times an inalienable and indefeasible right to alter, reform or abolish their government in such manner as they may think proper.

SEC. 3. All men have a natural and indefeasible right to worship Almighty God according to the dictates of their own consciences; no man can of right be compelled to attend, erect or support any place of worship, or to maintain any ministry against his consent; no human authority can, in any case whatever, control or interfere with the rights of conscience, and no preference shall ever be given by law to any religious establishments or modes of worship.

SEC. 4. No person who acknowledges the being of a God and a future state of rewards and punishments shall, on account of his religious sentiments, be disqualified to hold office or place of trust or profit in this Commonwealth.

SEC. 5. Elections shall be free and equal; and no power, civil or military, shall at any time interfere to prevent the free exercise of the right of suffrage.

SEC. 6. Trial by jury shall be as heretofore, and the right thereof remain inviolate.

SEC. 7. The printing press shall be free to every person who may undertake to examine the proceedings of the Legislature or any branch of government, and no law shall ever be made to restrain the right thereof. The free communication of thoughts and opinions is one of the invaluable rights of man, and every citizen may freely speak, write and print on any subject, being responsible for the abuse of that liberty. No conviction shall be had in any prosecution for the publication of papers relating to the official conduct of officers or men in public capacity, or to any other matter proper for public investigation or information where the fact that such publication was not maliciously or negligently made shall be established to the satisfaction of the jury; and in all indictments for libels the jury shall have the right to determine the law and the facts, under the direction of the court, as in other cases.

SEC. 8. The people shall be secure in their persons, houses, papers and possessions from unreasonable searches and seizures, and no warrant to search any place or to seize any person or things shall issue without describing them as nearly as may be, nor without probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation subscribed to by the affiant.

SEC. 9. In all criminal prosecutions, the accused hath a right to be heard by himself and his counsel, to demand the nature and cause of the accusation against him, to meet the witnesses face to face, to have compulsory process for obtaining witnesses in his favor, and in prosecutions by indictment or information, a speedy public trial by an impartial jury of the vicinage; he cannot be compelled to give evidence against himself, nor can he be deprived of his life, liberty or property, unless by the judgment of his peers or the law of the land.

SEC. 10. No person shall, for any indictable offense, be proceeded against, criminally, by information, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the militia, when in actual service in time of war or public danger, or by leave of the court, for oppression or misdemeanor in office. No person shall, for the same offense, be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall private property be taken or applied to public use, without authority of law, and without just compensation being first made or secured.

SEC. 11. All courts shall be open; and every man for an injury done him in his lands, goods, person, or reputation, shall have remedy by the due course of law, and right and justice administered without sale, denial, or delay. Suits may be brought against the Commonwealth in such manner, and in such courts as the Legislature may by law direct.

SEC. 12. No power of suspending laws shall be exercised unless by the Legislature or by its authority.

SEC. 13. Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel punishments inflicted.

SEC. 14. All prisoners shall be bailable by sufficient sureties, unless for capital offenses, where the proof is evident or presumption great; and the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus shall not be suspended, unless when in case of rebellion or invasion the public safety may require it.

SEC. 15. No commission shall issue in any case out of over and terminer or jail delivery shall be issued.

SEC. 16. The person of a debtor, where there is not strong presumption of fraud, shall not be confined in prison after delivering up his estate for the benefit of his creditors, in such manner as shall be prescribed by law.

SEC. 17. *Ex post facto* law, nor any law impairing the obligation of contracts, or making irrevocable any grant of special privileges or immunities, shall be passed.

SEC. 18. No person shall be attainted of treason or felony by the Legislature.

SEC. 19. No attainder shall work corruption of blood, nor, except during the life of the offender, forfeiture of real estate. The real estate of those who take their own lives shall descend or vest as in cases of natural death, and if any person shall be killed by casualty, there shall be no forfeiture by reason thereof.

SEC. 20. The citizens have a right in a peaceable manner to assemble together for their common good, and to apply to those invested with the powers of government for redress of grievances or other proper purpose, by petition, address or remonstrance.

SEC. 21. The right of citizens to bear arms in defense of themselves and the State shall not be questioned.

SEC. 22. No standing army shall, in time of peace, be kept up without the consent of the Legislature, and the military shall, in all cases, and at all times, be in strict subordination to the civil power.

SEC. 23. No soldier shall, in time of peace be quartered in any house without the consent of the owner, nor in time of war but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

SEC. 24. The Legislature shall not grant any title of nobility or hereditary distinction, nor create any office the appointment to which shall be for a longer term than good behavior.

SEC. 25. Emigration from the State shall not be prohibited.

SEC. 26. To guard against transgressions of the high powers which we have delegated, we declare that everything in this article is excepted out of the general powers of government, and shall forever remain inviolate.

ARTICLE II.

THE LEGISLATURE.

SECTION 1. The legislative power of this Commonwealth shall be vested in a General Assembly, which shall consist of a Senate and a House of Representatives.

SEC. 2. Members of the General Assembly shall be chosen at the general election every second year. Their term of service shall begin on the first day of December next after their election. Whenever a vacancy shall occur in the Senate or House, the presiding officer thereof shall issue a writ of election to fill such vacancy for the remainder of the term.

SEC. 3. Senators shall serve for the term of four years and Representatives for the term of two years.

SEC. 4. The General Assembly shall meet at twelve o'clock, noon, on the first Tuesday of January every second year, and at other times when convened by the Governor, but shall hold no adjourned annual session after the session of the one hundred and seventy-eighth. In case of a vacancy in the office of United States Senator from this Commonwealth, if the General Assembly, at the next session, shall convene the two Houses by proclamation, on notice not exceeding forty days after the vacancy.

SEC. 5. Senators shall be at least twenty-five years of age, and Representatives twenty-one years of age. They shall have been for four years inhabitants of the State four years, and inhabitants of their respective districts one year next before their election (unless absent on the public business of the United States or of this State), and shall reside in their respective districts during their terms of service.

SEC. 6. No Senator or Representative shall, during the time for which he shall have been elected, be appointed to any civil office under this Commonwealth, shall no member of Congress or other person holding any office (except of attorney-at-law or in the militia) under the United States or this Commonwealth shall be a member of either house during his continuance in office.

SEC. 7. No person hereafter convicted of embezzlement of public moneys, bribery, perjury or other infamous crime, shall be eligible to the General Assembly, or capable of holding any office of trust or profit in the Commonwealth.

SEC. 8. The Senate of the General Assembly shall receive such salary and mileage for regular and special sessions as shall be established by law, but no other compensation whatever, whether for service upon committees or otherwise. No member of either house shall, during the term for which he may have been elected, receive any increase of salary or mileage, under any law passed during such term.

SEC. 9. The Senate shall, at the beginning and close of each regular session, and also at such other times as may be necessary, elect one of its members president pro tempore, who shall perform the duties of the Lieutenant Governor, in any case of absence or disability of that officer, and shall also, when said office of Lieutenant Governor shall be vacant. The House of Representatives shall elect one of its members as Speaker. They shall also elect such other officers, and shall judge of the election and qualifications of their members.

SEC. 10. A majority of each house shall constitute a quorum, but a smaller number may adjourn from day to day and may compel the attendance of absent members.

SEC. 11. Each house shall have power to determine the rules of its proceedings and punish its members or other persons for contempt or disorderly behavior in its presence, to enforce obedience to its process, to protect its members against violence, or offers of bribes or private solicitation, and with the concurrence of two-thirds, to expel a member, but not a second time for the same cause, and shall have all other powers necessary for the legislature of a free State. A member expelled for corruption shall not thereafter be eligible to either house, nor be punishable for contempt or disorderly behavior shall not bar an indictment for the same offense.

SEC. 12. Each house shall keep a journal of its proceedings and from time to time publish the same, except such parts as require secrecy, and the yeas and nays of the members of either house, shall, on the desire of any two of them, be entered on the record.

SEC. 13. The session of each house and of committees of the whole shall be open, unless when the business is such as ought to be kept secret.

SEC. 14. Neither house shall, without the consent of the other, adjourn for more than three days, nor to any other place than that in which the two houses shall be sitting.

SEC. 15. The members of the General Assembly shall in all cases, except treason, felony, violation of their oath of office, and breach or surety of the peace, be privileged from arrest during their attendance at the sessions of their respective houses, and in going to and returning from the same; and for any speech or debate in either house, they shall not be questioned in any other place.

SEC. 16. The State shall be divided into fifty Senatorial districts of compact and contiguous territory, as nearly equal in population as may be, and each district shall be entitled to elect one Senator. Each county containing one or more ratios of population shall be entitled to one Senator for each ratio, and to an additional Senator for a surplus of population exceeding three fifths of a ratio; but no county shall form a separate district unless it shall contain four-fifths of a ratio, except where two adjoining counties are each entitled to two Senators, or when such county may be assigned a Senator on less than four-fifths of a ratio. Single counties, and no county shall be divided unless entitled to two or more Senators. No city or county shall be entitled to separate representation which shall not contain all the whole number of Senators. No ward, borough or township shall be divided in the formation of a district. The Senatorial ratio shall be ascertained by dividing the whole population of the State by the number fifty.

SEC. 17. The members of the House of Representatives shall be apportioned among the several counties, on a ratio obtained by dividing the population of the State as ascertained by the most recent United States census by two hundred. Every county containing less than five ratios shall have one representative for every ratio and not exceeding three additional representative when the surplus exceeds half a ratio; but each county shall have at least one representative. Every county containing five ratios or more shall have one representative for every full ratio. Every city containing a population equal to a ratio shall elect separately its proportion of the representatives allotted to the county in which it is located. Every city entitled to more than four representatives, and every county having over one hundred thousand inhabitants, shall be divided into districts of compact and contiguous territory, each district to elect its proportion of representatives according to its population, but no district shall elect more than four representatives.

SEC. 18. The General Assembly at its first session after the adoption of this Constitution, and immediately after each United States decennial census, shall apportion the State into Senatorial and Representative districts according to the provisions of the two next preceding sections.

ARTICLE III.

LEGISLATION.

SECTION 1. No law shall be passed except by bill, and no bill shall be so altered or amended on its passage through either house as to change its original purpose.

SEC. 2. No bill shall be considered unless referred to a committee, returned therefrom, and printed for the use of the members.

SEC. 3. No bill, except general appropriation bills, shall be passed, containing more than one subject, which shall be clearly expressed in its title.

SEC. 4. Every bill shall be read at length on three different days in each house; all amendments made thereto shall be printed for the use of the members before the final vote is taken on the bill, and no bill shall become a law unless on its final passage the vote be taken by yeas and nays, the names of the persons voting for and against the same be entered on the journal, and a majority of the members elected to each house be recorded thereon as voting in its favor.

SEC. 5. No amendments to bills by one house shall be concurred in by the other, except by a vote of a majority of the members elected thereto taken by yeas and nays, and the names of those voting for and against recorded upon the journal thereof; and reports of committees of conference shall be adopted in either house only by the vote of a majority of the members elected thereto, taken by yeas and nays, and the names of those voting recorded upon the journal.

SEC. 6. No law shall be revived, amended, or the provisions thereof extended or conferred, by reference to its title only, but so much thereof as is revived, amended, extended or conferred shall be inserted at length in the new act.

SEC. 7. The General Assembly shall not pass any local or special law:

Authorizing the creation, extension or impairing of liens;

Regulating the affairs of counties, cities, townships, wards, boroughs, or school districts;

Changing the names of persons or places;

Changing the venue in civil or criminal cases;

Authorizing the laying out, opening, altering, or maintaining roads, highways, streets, or alleys;

Relating to ferries or bridges, or incorporating ferry or bridge companies, except for the erection of bridges crossing streams which form boundaries between this and any other State;

Vacating roads, town plats, streets or alleys;

Relating to cemeteries, graveyards or public grounds not of the State;

Authorizing the adoption or legitimation of children;

Locating or changing county seats, erecting new counties, or changing county lines;

Incorporating cities, towns, or villages, or changing the charter of any;

For the opening and conducting of elections, or fixing or changing the place of voting;

Granting corporate powers;

Erecting new townships or boroughs, changing township lines, borough limits, or school districts;

Creating offices, or prescribing the powers and duties of officers in counties, cities, boroughs, townships, election or school districts;

Changing the law of descent or succession;

Regulating the practice or jurisdiction of, or changing the rules of evidence in any judicial proceeding or inquiry before courts, aldermen, justices of the peace, or other tribunals, or providing for sheriffs, auditors, masters in chancery, or other ministerial officers, or prescribing the powers or duties of collectors of debts, or the enforcing of judgments, or prescribing the effect of judicial sales of real estate;

Regulating the fees, or exempting the powers and duties of brokers, justices of the peace, magistrates, or constables;

Regulating the management of public schools, the building or repairing of school houses, and the raising of money for such purposes;

Fixing the rate of interest;

Affecting the estates of minors or persons under disability, except after due notice to all parties in interest, to be recited in the special enactment;

Remitting fines, penalties and forfeitures, or refunding moneys legally paid into the Treasury;

Exempting property from taxation;

Regulating labor, trade, mining, or manufacturing;

Creating corporations, or amending, renewing, or extending the charter thereof;

Granting to any corporation, association, or individual any special or exclusive privilege or immunity, or to any corporation, association or individual the right to lay down a railroad track. Nor shall the General Assembly indirectly enact any special or local law by the partial repeal of a general law; but laws may be repealed in part as well as in whole or passed. Nor shall any law be passed granting powers or privileges in any case where the granting of such powers and privileges shall require the consent of the parties, but where the courts have jurisdiction to grant the same upon petition to them for that purpose.

SEC. 8. No local or special bill shall be passed unless notice of the intention to apply therefor shall have been published in the locality where the matter or the parties affected may be situated, which notice shall be at least thirty days prior to the introduction into the General Assembly of such bill, and in the case of a general law, which can be made the subject of such notice having been published, shall be admitted in evidence before the General Assembly when such act shall be passed.

SEC. 9. The presiding officers of each house shall, in the presence of the house over which he presides, sign all bills and joint resolutions passed by the General Assembly, after their titles shall have been publicly read immediately before signing, and the fact of signing shall be entered on the journal.

SEC. 10. All laws shall be uniform throughout the State by the number, duties and compensation of the officers required to be elected or appointed, no payment shall be made from the State Treasury or be in any way authorized to any person, except to an existing officer or agency, specially authorized by the appropriation of money, nor to any person for services rendered or property furnished or to be furnished subsequent to the passage of the act making the appropriation therefor, nor to any contractor, after services shall have been rendered or contracts fulfilled, except in pursuance of a law authorizing the same, nor to any person for services rendered or property furnished or to be furnished,